



he Magazine

Our chaos strategy is working, say IRA

David McKittrick, Jason Bennetto and Esther Leach

The IRA is expected to continue its tactics of mass disruption after a Republican source revealed yesterday that the terrorist organisation believes the strategy is "working".

Two explosions and a series of coded warnings caused trav-el chaos throughout the Mid-lands and north of England

The terrorist organisation torway links effectively cutting off the north from the south of the country for many hours.

Two devices exploded at spond at the Conservatives ear—we are sinking further into the Doncaster and Leeds, but noone was injured. The train stations and city centres also of lowed just before Easter when cuta controlled explosion at the Stoke on Trent and Crewe were a small bomb was planted near also evacuated and two long tretches of the M6 were closed

of recent incidents which the National was disrupted by a EXA plainly regards as highly successful exercises in gaining the limelight during the election

campaign. campaign.

A republican source vesterday repeated that the strategy M to hadhing was aimed at causing maxiheart is from disruption and maximum blockers have building building to be a minthe civilian population.

The source told The Independent: "It is the classic republican position - that bombs or disruption in England have more of an impact than it has in Ireland. You can see it is working because John Major's having to answer questions about it at his morning press conferences. That's how it's impacting."

ing early morning warnings ter 7am- it can dominate the

the first week of April when the for five hours.

M6 and M1 were targeted. At
The attacks follow the pattern the end of that week, the Grand M6 and M1 were targeted. At

coded warning.
Yesterday's alerts caused dis-ruption to millions of travellers and workers and cost millions of pounds in lost business.

The bomb in Doncaster went off at 10-10am on a road over a rail bridge to the north of the

imum of threat to the lives of closed and the surrounding area evacuated from about 7.15am, blocking two rail lines.

The second explosion was at a relay cabinet containing sig nalling equipment near Leeds station car park just before 9am. No-one was hurt, but the city centre was immediately cordoned off and remained closed for about six hours. The station was still closed last night as searches continued.

The comments suggest that Keith Hellawell, chief conthe IRA is aware that by issustable of West Yorkshire, said the warning call to Leeds was again targeted key rail and mo- yesterday's were given at just af- not accompanied with a codeword. He said: "If this is a new election agenda throughout the _ tactic, and I don't know that it day and force John Major to re- is, then it is a despicable action

to gain access to main foyer area after a coded warning was given just after 7am.

In Crewe warning was tele-phoned to a local hospital and the train station was closed until late in the afternoon. An area of a quarter mile radius around the station was evacuated.

On the M6 two sections - one in Staffordshire, the other north of Manchester-were closed in both directions following

Major's position on Europe



Anthony Bevins
Political Editor

The portrayal of Tony Blair as the British dummy on the knee of the German Chancellor, Helmut Kohl, was yesterday roundly denounced by Tories, Labour and the Germans as "puerile", "pathetic", and "pitiful". But John Major and his senior colleagues appeared delighted by the controversy and the raised profile of their campaign

to paint Labour as a party of sell-out and surrender. Elmer Brok, a senior MP from the German Christian Democrat Party, who is to represent the European Parliament at the Amsterdam summit for heads of government in June, said the advertisement was pitiful. "It just goes to show how desperate the Conservative Party has become," he said. "We should be partners with Britain in building Europe - not fighting a battle." While Labour dismissed the attack as pathetic, Ed-

wina Currie, the former Tory minister, called it "pucrile" Conservative pro-Europeans are increasingly concerned by the way in which the Prime Minister has raised the stakes on his European campaign - and the way he appears to be "singing from John Redwood's hymn sheet". But Mr Major and Michael Heseltine, the Deputy Prime Minister, laughed off the criticism at their daily election press conference yesterday.

The Prime Minister said that Helmut Kohl was a "doughty fighter" for German interests - unlike Mr Blair, who had already offered six surrenders before he had even entered the negotiations. According to Mr Major, the Labour leader was telling the Germans and the French, "I've changed my red flag for a white flag, here are my surrenders, please can I have a seat; if you don't have a seat I'll have a knee.'

Last night, Mr Major went even further in his attack on Mr Blair, telling a Manchester rally that on Europe, the Labour leader had changed "from withdrawal through indecision to unconditional surrender". He added: "Mr Blair changes his mind as often as a grasshopper jumps." Changing metaphor, he added

Independent: business journal of the year

The Independent has won the Financial Journal of the Year award from the Wincott Foundation. This is the second time that the newspaper has won the award. the most prestigious in financial journalism.

The judges praised The Independent's coverage of business, city and economics for its campaigning style, sound judgment, high number of scoops and visual impact.



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page 23 ection countdown, pages 10-14 bing for votes on be Algarve, page 11 Greens to disrupt BBC, page 13

> vote, page 14 GUICKLY

etting out the Asian

lew HIV scandal ars about the safety of blood the raised vesterday after the mional Blood Service disclosed it three patients had been insand with HIV after receiving the susions during hospital Page 5

Cheap drugs fear A cut price version of Ecstasy s among three new drugs to have hit the dance markets husing concern that young copic will be tempted to try if icit substances.

labi hangs on The future of Benjamin Nelanyahu remains in doubt after support for the beleaguered Is-facili prime minister seemed to Maying among his cabinet and governing coalition. Page 15 | Labour, new peerages, "Geof-

town. The railway station was - coded warnings. Vanessa spells out her new revolution: vote Ashdown

Kim Sengupta

Vanessa Redgrave has not given up on her struggle radically to change society.
The only thing that has changed is the means to the end. On 1 May the former Trotskyite revolutionary will be voling for Paddy Ashdown's Liberal Democrats.

Times have changed. Her allegiance used to be to the Workers' Revolu-tionary Party, whose battlecry in the heady days of class watfare was "Labour and the SDP, the running dogs of the bourgeoisie". But now Ms Redgrave feels that it is the Liberal Democrats who offer the best hope for ushering in a more just, and fair system.

That is not the only change. Ms Redgrave believes that faced with what she sees as an authoritarian Conservative govemment introducing draconian legislation leading towards a police state, society has two bulwarks of defence - the judiciary, and the press. One of her main references to support her views is The Economist, a publication that has never been seen as a bible of Marxism-Leninism.

These new favoured institutions, of course, featured prominently in the demonology of the hard-left in the past.



Alarmed: Redgrave, still seeking justice

However Ms Redgrave remains a

lambasted these "arms of the state" try-ing to destabilise and destroy his

 Photograph: Kalpesh Lathigra WRP leaders like Gerry Healy regularly | launched 10 years ago. And she says she is "extremely alarmed, and angry" at the way the Establishment is running the

order measures - the Criminal Justice Act, the new Police Act, the Crime Sentences Act, and the Asylum Bill - being brought in by Michael Howard. She is a prominent member of the lobby group set up to oppose this, the Charter for Basic Rights.

Ms Redgrave said: "I spoke to Paddy Ashdown a few months ago at the House of Commons when I was there for a meeting against the Asylum and Immigration Bill, which is an apalling piece of legislation.

"He assured me the Liberal Democrats are opposed to it, and I believe him. So I shall be voting Liberal Democrat at my constituency of Brentford and Isleworth.

"I shall also be speaking to the Labour candidate there, but the Labour Party has done very little to oppose any of these very unfair measures brought in by the Government, so I cannot see how I can vote for them.

Ms Redgrave, 60, the scion of one of the most famous thespian families of the country, and described as the greatest British actress of her generation, con-But the Marxist Party is not putting tinues to speak out against what she sees

member of the Marxist Party which was up any candidates. And Ms Redgrave as injustice. Labour win new peerages in dissolution honours list

Political Correspondent

It's payback time today for three Old Labour MPs who stood down to make way for New Labour. In a case of "old

leased during a general election three said they realised another five years in politics would be newed vigour to jobs for life in

frey Lofthouse, John Evans a long time. Others in their parand Doug Hoyle have been ty were less sure, and more than given life peerages in the first one hinted that honours had dissolution honours list to be re- been offered as inducements. The trio will no doubt express since 1970. A month ago the shock and delight at today's news, and look forward with re-

the House of Lords. Rumours of the ennoblements had been circulating for months but all had been rebutted. . In March the Times even

carried an apology to Mr Lofthouse for the suggestion that he LONG WEEKEND

mer MPs respectively for Pon-tefract and Castleford, St Helens North and Warrington North, are among 21 retiring members who have all been made life peers in the first honours list to during a general election since 1970.

Motoring20



Says a well known Indian text. 'Life flows like water from a broken pot, therefore, O man, while there still is time, choose the better way...'

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THE BROADSHEET Business & City 24-26 Foreign News15-19

significant shorts

Firefighters' strike likely as hopes of settlement fade

Talks aimed at averting a firefighters' strike looked set to fail yesterday as army Green Goddesses stood by as cover during

Officials of the Fire Brigades Union were meeting leaders of Essex County Council to try to resolve a dispute over £1.5m in spending cuts. Two union negotiators left the meeting early and said it had broken down, meaning the first 24-hour strike would start at 10am today. But the council insisted the talks were still continuing at lunchtime. One union negotiator said: "I have not seen any glimmer of light during the talks and my hopes of a settlement are fading." The union is planning further walkouts next Monday and Wednesday, in protest at the cuts, which the council has blamed on government underfunding

Boy gave life to save girlfriend

A 14-year-old girl described yesterday how her boyfriend saved her life at the cost of his own when he used his body as a shield to protect her from a car.

Paul Broughton, 16, pushed his girlfriend out of the way and took the impact himself, an inquest heard. He was thrown into the path of a second car and died of heart failure during emergency surgery three hours later. His girlfriend, 14-year-old Laura Gledhill, escaped serious injury. The accident happened when Paul, of Monk Bretton, South Yorkshire, and Laura were on their way home from a bonfire-night party. His father, Alan Broughton, 47, said: "Paul's action was typical of him – he was a very courageous lad." Laura said: "Paul ... saved my life. As he lay in the road he called 'Laura', that was the last word he said. I thought the world of him." Christopher Dorries, the coroner, recorded a verdict of accidental death.

Triple killer goes back to Broadmoor



Alan Reeve (left), the triple killer who escaped from Broadmoor top-security hospital 16 years ago, appeared before magistrates yesterday after being extradited from the Irish

He escaped from Broadmoor in 1981 where he was being held for killing his friend Roger Jackson when the pair were 15. He was arrested two weeks ago in Cork, where he had been living with his fiancée and baby son, and working as a typesetter at the Cork Women's Poetry Circle. Reeve, 49, was rearrested on warrants relating to the murders of Roger Jackson

and a fellow Broadmoor inmate, Billy Doyle, 22. In 1981 he escaped to Holland where he killed a policeman in a bungled off-licence raid. He spent 10 years in a Dutch prison, then went to ground. After the hearing in Bracknell, Berkshire, Reeve was driven to Broadmoor.

Prison service resignation

One of the Prison Service's most senior managers resigned his post yesterday, becoming the latest penal expert to call for a Royal Commission on crime and punishment to "untangle crime and punishment from the politics of law and order".

In his resignation speech at the Edinburgh/Cambridge Society last night, Dr David Wilson, head of prison-officer and operational training for England and Wales, declared he could no longer be part of a process hijacked by the lowest form of politics, and obsessed with locking more and more people up. As well as the Conservative government, he attacked the media and television programmes such as Crimewatch for their obsession with violent crime and criminals. A Royal Commission would, he said, allow for rational, non-partisan debate, finding solutions that would "develop our nation rather than

Body-parts sculptor filed by police

The Metropolitan Police last night confirmed they had sent a file on the sculptor Anthony-Noel Kelly to the Crown Prosecution Service. Mr Kelly, 41, reported for bail at Vauxhall police station in London on Thursday and is due back to a different station in London in June. He was arrested earlier this month after police searched his studio in south London and his family home in Kent; taking away a number of human parts and pieces of art. Mr Kelly, a cousin of the Duke of Norfolk, has previously admitted using human body parts for plaster casts in his work.

Mark Rowe

Spread a little

human body parts for plaster casts in his work.

Whatever the occasion; anniversaries, birthdays, thank-yous, house-warmings, retirements, they'll enjoy creating a little magic for themselves with National Garden Gift Tokens.

magic

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Theale, Berkshire.



Niki Reynolds: 1 just wanted him away from me' (Photograph: Paul Ross)

Mugger feels the heat as victim fights fire with fire

acigarette lighter, police in London have confirmed. Niki Reynolds, a 37-year-old mother of three, was walking home through Maida Vale, north-west London, one evening when she was grabbed from behind by a man who got out of a battered BMW. He held a short knife to her throat and demanded money.

"I was just walking along minding my own business when a car with two men inside pulled alongside and a guy jumped out," Ms Reynolds said yesterday. "He started shouting at me asking for money and then became more aggressive. With his left hand he hit me on the jaw and with his other hand he pulled out a knife and held it to my throat. It was more the shock than the pain which stunned me."

After a struggle, Ms Reynolds, who had been about to light a cigarette, put her lighter behind her, held it against her attackers crotch and flicked its flame. "I just wanted him away from me and off my body," she

woman escaped an attempted mugging by burn-sald. "I wasn't really thinking about what I was doinging her attacker's crotch with the flame from her "He didn't have a clue what I was doing but after a few seconds of struggling the heat suddenly hit him and he puged away swearing and shouting. The next thing I know he had fallen on the ground. The other guy in the car was swearing at him and he stumbled back to the car. I was rooted to the spot to the spot because I was terrified that if I ran they would be able to catch up with me. Thenkinly they just drove off."

Apart from the shock of the attack, his Reynolds was unharmed and no money was take

Pc Jame Mailie, of Harrow Road Robbery Squad said: "The place slie held the lighter is a sensitive area, eve. His trousers did not catch fire but he was clear ly in a lot of pain.

'It was a heroic thing and it did raise a smile among the police officers. But we would not recommend that anybody do this as it could have provoked the man

Mark Rowe and Sanon Reeve

Leukaemia sister reconsiders bone marrow donation

The sister of a woman dying from leukaemia was yesterday reconsidering her refusal to donate

life-saving bone marrow to her. Susan Squires, 34, was said to have denied the transplant to her sister Angela Latham ,34, (pictured) because she was terrified of hospitals.

Doctors had found Ms Squires

to be the only perfect match for Mrs Latham after searching a worldwide register of 4 million donors. The sisters who live 500 yards away from each other in Blackpool have not spoken to each other in almost three years after Ms Squires' phobia of hospitals led her to refuse her sister the chance of a transplant. But after a meeting with Ms Squires yesterday, Mrs Latham's husband Paul said: "She's had a bit of a change of heart. At least now she's thinking about it We had more conversation in half-

last three years." Mrs Latham's leukaemia was diagnosed three years ago and since then she has undergone chemotherapy and is now on daily



learn yesterday that the bone marrow donation could be performed at her home. Dr Si Ahmed, chalman of the Blackpoo branch of the British Medical Association, said the operation was quick, safe, involved minimal pain and could be performed

outside the hospital environment. Mrs Latham said: "I think this is a breakthrough. She is petrified of hospitals, but she now knows that she doesn't have to go into hospital, but can instead go to her GP or to a clinic. I hope she loves me enough to do it."

Glenda Cooper

Diamond dagger award for Morse author

Inspector Morse creator Colin

Dexter has won this year's acclaimed Cartier Diamond Dagger Award for his outstanding contribution to detective writing. The Oxford-based author has

written 12 novels about the laconic inspector and his sidekick Lewis. Mr Dexter has also appeared in the background of 27 out of 30 Inspector Morse programmes made by Central TV.

The Crime Writers' Association aiso awards gold and silver daggers to outstanding writers in the genre. Previous winners of the diamond dagger, founded in 1986, include John le Carré, PD James, Dick Francis and Ruth Rendell.

The trophy, made by jewellers Cartier London, is made of gold and silver with a large ruby cabochon surrounded by diamonds.

Dexter, 66, has said that Morse, like me, is something of a miserable, old sod, semi-autobiographical..." He also shares his character's passion for classical studies, and has urged that Latin and Greek be taught in comprehensive schools.

HEALTH

Young men storing up trouble by behaving badly

The thought that men may one day be over weight rarely crosses their minds. A new survey from Mintel, exclusive to The Independent, shows that less than a quarter of men in their late teens and early twenties make an effort to stick to a low-fat dict. While almost three in ten women at this age cat little or no red

meat, less than one in ten men has taken red meat off the menu.

As well as a penchant for hamburger and chips, young men are more likely than any other group in society to drink heavily. although young women are catching up fast. Eighteen per cent of men in their twenties and early thirties are heavy drinkers, according to Mintel, compared with 8 per cent of women of a

It is not all about men behaving badly. More than half of men in their late teens and early twenties exercise at least once a week. So, in spite of their diet nearly two-thirds are either about the right weight, or slightly underweight. They may, however, he storing up trouble for later. David Booth, Professor of Psychology and Eating at Birmingham University says: "Premature heart disease is a male issue and heart attacks at 40 are in part a result of what men have laid down through their eating habits during their 20s. Healthy Lifestyles, published by Mintel, 18-19 Long Lane, London ECIA 9HE; £895.

Full report: The Long Weekend, page 21

HOUSING

London facing homes shortage

People are flocking back to the capital. The population of London, recently described in a number of guide books as "The Happening

recently described in a minuter of guide books as "The Happening City" is booming again.

A rise in the number of European nationals moving to London, with a fall in the number of people leaving the city, has upset planners' forecast for the next 20 years. The corollary of this is that there has been a severe underestimation of the number of new homes that will be needed for the city, according to a survey by Dr. Martin Mogridge and Professor John Parr of Glasgow University.

Martin Mogridge and Professor John Part of Glasgow University.

Their report, A Study for London Transport Planning, suggests there will be a demand for up to 436,000 new homes by 2016 – not the 300,000 forecast by the Department of Environment.

Dr Mogridge said the DoE's own research suggests that immigration would continue to rise until 2011, before falling again. He said that while controls have tightened to stem the flow of Commonwealth immigrants, European nationals are now freer than ever to come to Britain.

Kim Sengupts

SOCIETY

Callers abusing police 999 service

Two-thirds of 999 calls made to police are not emergencies. according to a survey. West Midlands Police answered more than 468,000 emergency calls last year, including nearly 15,500 from people asking for the number of their local station. Eleven thousand were from children calling by mistake, 6,500 were from people asking for advice on civil matters, nearly 26,000 were silent calls made from telephone kiosks and just under 4,000 were from

drunken or abusive callers



BUSINESS

Post Office sell-off widely opposed

Privatising the Post Office would be as unpopular as ever. according to a new opinion poll which showed a huge majority in

favour of keeping the service public.

The MORI poll for the Communication Workers' Union found only 5 per cent of 2,000 people in favour of selling off the Post Office as a whole. Joint general secretary Derek Hodgson said: "It would be a perversion of democracy for any political party to push forward with proposals supported by such a time minorier. The forward with proposals supported by such a tiny minority. The debate about the Post Office should finish here. The people's message is clear – hands off."

The union believes the poll shows that the future of the Post Office should be taken out of the political arena. The Tories have said they will consider different forms of privatising the Royal Mail if it wins the election and will sell off Parcelforce.

EMPLOYMENT

Sex war looms for Welsh speakers

Employers in Wales who don't know their gwr from their gwraig were warned yesterday that they may be breaching sex The Equal Opportunities Commission has cast its eye over

Welsh language job titles and found that many are masculine with

The problem is, that unlike the English language, all Welsh nouns are either masculine or feminine so that when employers nouns are either masculine or feminine so that when employers advertise for example, for a rheolwr (manager) they imply they are looking for a male manager because of the suffix 'wr' which comes from gwr. Welsh for man. The Welsh for driver (gyrrwr) also implies a man, as does miner (glowr) and judge (barrwr). There is a female suffix, wraig from the Welsh for woman, gwraig, which could be used instead, but language purists says it would lead to words being artificially invented. They say that

would lead to words being artificially invented. They say that

would lead to words being artificially invented.

Campaigners are confusing gender with sex.

Val Feld, Equal Opportunities director in Wales, said that now the research has been completed the EOC would be drawing up the research has been completed the EOC would be drawing up the research has been completed the EOC would be drawing up

THE INDEPENDENT ABROAD

Australia to deport triple-killer to Britain

The Australian authorities have begun moves to return triple murderer Archie "Mad Dog" McCafferty to Britzin.

McCafferty, 49, who went to Australia as a 10-year-old with his family but never became an Australian citizen, was given three life sentences in 1974 for leading a gang which killed three men in the space of five days. While in jail, he was convicted of the manslaughter of another prisoner.

New South Wales Parole Board yesterday granted McCafferty parole, after four earlier applications were been rejected, and ordered his release by 3 May. "We would expect at the point in time when he is released from detention that the (deportation)

order should be carried out," Australian immigration Minister Philip Ruddock said. British Consul-General Philip Morrice said

Britain had accepted the decision. However, there was anger in McCafferty's former home city of Glasgow. Michael Martin, who is seeking re-election as Labour MP for the Springburn constituency, said: "I have no quarrel with the parole board's decision, I am by no means a 'hang them and flog them MP' - but the decision to deport him is morally wrong, and I have complained to the Foreign Office. My concern is that the Australian authorities, and in particular this immigration ministe

will use the UK - and most likely

Glasgow, as a dumping ground for

people they consider to be unworthy to stay in their country." The random murders which led

to McCafferty's life sentence began after he said he suffered a defusion while visiting the grave of his baby son --- who suffocated while breastfeeding — telling him to kill seven people. He remained obsessed with the

number seven in prison, writing an autobiography entitled Seven Shall Die and was initially considered an aggressive and extremely dangerous prisoner.

However, parole board judge Des Ward said that by 1988 McCafferty was seen as a model prisoner who was quiet, cooperative, and able to relate to people normally.



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The rise

and rise

of the

laddery

from

Loaded

Mr Brown said: "I won't talk

about Laddism and all that

bollocks, that shows a lack of un-

derstanding of what Loaded is

about. I'm not a 25-year-old loafer any more, I'm con-

fronting new things in my life now and GQ will give me much

"I want to make the magazine

very exciting and funny and full

of commanding journalism. It

Mr Brown and Tim South-

well, both former pop music pa-

per journalists came up with the

Loaded concept and convinced

Mr Brown's appointment

should inevitably mark a change of direction for GQ. It was

launched in the UK in 1988 and

staved stubbornly under the

100,000 sales mark until the

men's style magazine market

took off on the back of Loaded's success. It has risen steadily to

150,000, but has been eclipsed

by EMAP's FHM, which was re-

designed in the Loaded mould

and is now selling close to

ation with naked women, alco-

journalistic innovations have

Loaded is famous for its fix-

500,000 copies a month.

sales of about 40,000. In the last - hol, drugs and football. Its early

Olympics.

is a natural step on."

IPC to publish it.

greater scope.

Paul McCann

Media Correspondent

men's monthly GQ.

Loaded.

sales of Loaded.

James Brown, the father of

Laddism and the editor of the

phenomenally successful men's

magazine Loaded has turned

his attention to the more staid

Mr Brown, 31, announced

yesterday that he is leaving

Loaded to become editor of the

upmarket GQ which sells over

200,000 copies a month less than

Condé Nast, publisher of GQ, denies that Mr Brown is

planning to change their mag-

azine in order to chase the

leridge, Condé Nast's managing director, confirmed that Mr

Brown would take the magazine

closer to the style it had under

Michael Vermuelen, who died

two years ago from a drug over-

dose. Since then the magazine

has been edited by the more

cerebral Angus McKinnon who

resigned from Condé Nast yes-

Loaded was Jaunched by IRC.

Magazines in 1994 with target

six months of 1996 its audit sale

copies a month.

However, Nicholas Co-

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THE INDEPEND

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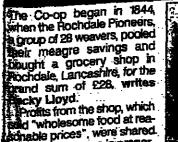
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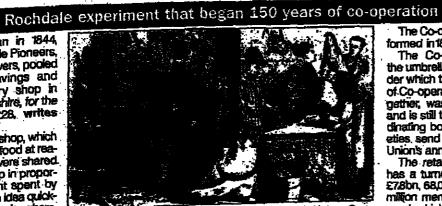
SPAPERS





ld "wholesome food at reasonable prices" were shared.
Witween the group in proportion to the amount spent by ch member. The idea quicksecame popular elsewhere 1863 the various co-optive societies joined tother to form their own esaling company. The

operative insurance Soci-



Co-op Society members in 1868 Photograph: Hulton Getty ety (CIS) was formed in 1967, \$5 million families through

and is now one of the coun-

try's leading insurers, serving tatives.

The Co-operative Bank was formed in 1872. The Co-operative Union. the umbrella organisation under which the different types of Co-operative are linked together, was formed in 1869 and is still the national co-ordinating body. Member soci-

eties send delegates to the

Union's annual meeting. The retail Movement now has a turnover in excess of £7,8bn, 68,000 staff and eight million members. The Movement, which offers everything from milk to funerals through its 4600 outlets, can still claim to look after its members "from the cradle to the grave"



tes Brown: 'Tm not a 25-year-old loafer any more, I'm confronting new things in my life'

The magazine's editorial staff has made no secret of their love mind-altering substances, but Mr Coleridge denies he is concerned about Brown's reputation. "After all we haven't employed Will Self,"

was around 375,000 and the latincheded a Biscuit of the Month he said.

ments, the effect has been that even the more up-market men's selling more whitin 400,000 small review and a companison of Loaded, the sit-com Men Beselling more whitin 400,000 small review and a companison of Loaded, the sit-com Men Beselling more within 400,000 small review and a companison of Loaded, the sit-com Men Beselling more within 400,000 small review and a companison of Loaded, the sit-com Men Beselling more within 400,000 small review and a companison of Loaded, the sit-com Men Beselling more within 400,000 small review and a companison of the Month he said. Fever Pitch novel have been have been forced to increase the

credited with creating a culture of Laddish behaviour characterised by a taste for sex, lager and football. However, many argue that Laddism is a media label for something that always existed. Whatever the argu-

amount of flesh on their covers

and in their pages. been credited with WH Smith's Dennis publishing's "big boys" decision in January to withdraw soft-porn magazines from its top shelves because Loaded and FHM had affected their sales.

The lads' magazines have

publishing and specialist spinoffs such as IPC's Loaded for foodies, Eat Soup, and Stuff,

tipped to succeed him. The changing men's market

has caused a switch-around in editors for all the main men's titles. Mike Soutar left FHM last Mr Brown is expected to month to become managing leave Loaded in the summer. A director of Kiss FM while Pereplacement has yet to be found ter Howarth moved from Are-but David Lancaster, editor of na to Esquire to replace The attracted a host of imitators, East Soup and Martin Deeson, Independent on Sunday's editor

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including Maxim from Dennis deputy editor of Loaded are Rosie Boycott. Midland Bank plc reserves the right not to open an account. Credit subject to status. Call 0800 180 180 for full written details.

A modern morality tale: the Co-op raider

lan Burreli

It was a movement founded on promises to take on capitalism and improve the living conditions of the British working man. But now the new man with the slick hairstyle and the sharp suit is promising to sweep away the old image of cloth caps and terraced streets forever.

Andrew Regan is the 31-year-old who wants to take the Co-operative Wholesale Society, one of the most important movements in the British class struggle, into a new era. Yet while Tony Blair and progressive trade union leaders are heralded as "modernisers" for sweeping away the cobwebs of outdated features of British socialism, Mr Regan has become the new demon in the eyes of the Labour Party. More than 50 Labour MPs have called for his bid to take control of large parts of CWS to

be blocked. On closer inspection it is not difficult to see why Mr Regan is so despised by the Labour members, 15 of whom are sponsored by the Co-op. He appears as an em-bodiment of Thatcherism, described by one commentator as "the mutant son of Gor-company.

don Gukko", who has emerged from a His interest in the Co-op appears to have deep freeze after being kept in storage since which this to do with the principles on which

the mid-1980s. In fact, Mr Regan has spent the last 12 years in a frenzy of business activity since setting up his first company at the age of 19. Born into a business family he boasts that while his teenage peers were getting drank and having fun, "the only thing I ever

wanted to do was run a public company". Leaving school at 17, he was encouraged by his father Roger, the chairman of the bitchens and hathrooms group Spring Bertha" takeover.



Regar: Embodiment of Thatcherism, who has won over several financial backers

the movement was founded.

gor together and said Right this is the pool of money we have got we can either go for a number of small acquisitions or we can go for a Big Bertha"

Ram, to set up a household cleaning prodnots firm. Seven years later he used the business to take control of Hobson, a listed

Presiding over an impromptu board meeting which he called in a City wine bar, Regan decided on major expansion. His partner Peter Hallett recalled: "We

for a Big Bertha."

The CWS was identified as a "Big

The language was rather different from that used when 28 flamel weavers formed the Rochdale Equitable Pioneers in 1840 to sell grain, sugar and butter at fair prices from the first Co-op shop.

The movement spread across Britain and at its peak had 11 million members in 2,000

The co-operative societies, along with the trade unions and other socialist bodies, set up the Independent Labour Party in 1893, and the movements have been intertwined ever since.

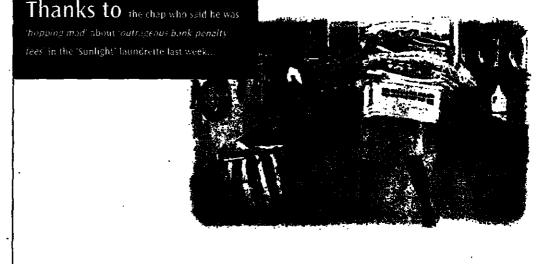
Ramsay MacDonald, the first Labour prime minister, insisted on Co-op products being delivered to 10 Downing Street.

This was the organisation which Regan wanted to take over. When rumours first carculated of his £1bn bid to buy up the Coop, not everyone took him seriously. He was depicted as a Don Quixote figure tilting his lance at a windmill. Yet the Co-op bosses,who denounced him as an "asset-stripping middleman", were not so scornful. After all Regan had already bought a chunk of CWS in 1994 and sold it for a personal profit of £2.7m.

Mr Regan, who lives in an elegant three-storey mansion in Kensington with his young wife and five children, is a fast, persuasive talker who has clearly won over several financial backers.

His charm may also have won him support from senior Co-op managers, two of whom were suspended on Thursday for se-

rious breach of trust. Yesterday a High Court was not so impressed, ordering Mr Regan to return any confidential CWS information that may have come into his possession. The decision in effect headed off his takeover bid.



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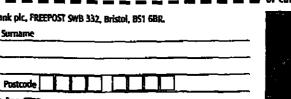
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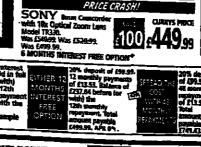
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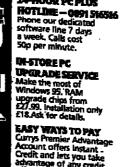


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New fears about the safety of blood were raised yesterday after the National Blood Service disclosed that three patients had been infected with HIV after receiving transfusions during hospital treatment.

The patients were infected by an HIV-positive donor whose contaminated blood escaped detection. One has since died of a condition unrelated to HIV. The others have been identified and offered counselling and

It is the first case of HIV infection in England since screening for the virus was introduced All blood donations are test-

ed but there is a window of 20 to 30 days after infection before the virus can be detected. The disclosure is a blow to the blood service which has suffered

repeated shortages and is urgently seeking new donors. Two years ago a batch of faulty blood bags resulted in two patients contracting septi-caemia from infected blood. Hospitals use 10,000 units a day

and demand is rising as more

patients undergo surgery.

Angela Robinson, medical director of the service, said the case was tragic but extremely rare, the first in over 30 million donations made since 1985, although there was a similar case in Scotland in 1986. "No one else is at risk. Patients can be reassured that blood transfusion in this country is among the

safest in the world," she said. A single donation of the infected blood was made in the north-west of England last summer and divided into red cells, piasma and plateiets, were given separately to the suitable for screening individual

did not show up in routine testing but was still capable of being passed on.

The case came to light last month after one of the patients was found to be HIV-pos itive while undergoing further hospital treatment. Doctors traced all the blood donations the patient had received, and a special sensitive test, known as a PCR test, which detects the presence of antibodies, was carried out on the original sample taken from the donor. This revealed the presence of the virus. All samples taken from donors at the time they give blood are kept routinely for two years in case such backdated checks have to be made.

Donors are given a ques tionnaire about their lifestyle and sexual habits which the National Blood Service said should have eliminated anyone at risk of carrying the in-

They are told they should never give blood if they are a man who has had sex with another man, injected drugs or worked as a prostitute. They should not give blood for a year after sex with a prostitute or after injecting drugs or for anyone of any race who has been sexually active in Africa.

A spokeswoman for the service said that the infected donor had been traced. "Either the donor did not know they were infected or they lied," she said.

Heat treatment is used to eliminate viruses present in blood products such as Factor VIII for haemophiliacs, but it cannot be used on whole blood because it would destroy it.

The spokeswoman said the more sensitive test for HIV, which is known as polymerase - donations. She said the service Because the donor had only had no plans to review its



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Lonely road: A single policeman on the M6 yesterday morning, which would normally have been packed but was shut by the IRA's bomb threats Photograph: Birmingham Post

Chaos caused by IRA will costs millions

Jason Bennetto and Esther Leach

The cost of yesterday's chaos caused by the IRA bombs and alert will run into many millions of pounds in lost business and expenses incurred by the emergency services.

The two small explosions and a series of IRA coded warnings effectively severed the north of England and Scotland from the south and caused disruption for millions. In a continuation of the IRA's

tactic of maximum chaos with minimum risk, they targeted the key rail and road links in the Midlands and north of England. and Stoke-on-Trent, were dis-

Manchester. A series of warnings was issued at just after 7am, forcing the police and emergency services to evacuate the four citys' train stations, along with businesses and large areas of the town centres.

No-one was injured in the small blasts at Leeds and Doncaster, but by paralysing the stations, the rail network running between the north and south was effectively disabled.

Huge queues built up on the M6 and the area was still busy even after the closed sections were re-opened again around 1.30pm. But the rail stations remained shut late into yesterday evening - causing havor to train services.

One of the areas worst hit was rupted, along with two long stretches of the M6 - one in Leeds. The emergency began | Staffordshire, the other north of with an uncoded message to the

city's General Infirmary at 7.14am. Within minutes, police officers were sent to the railway mained closed. station to carry out a search for

an explosive device, But it was at least another one-and-a-half hours before the station was evacuated, just as an explosion was heard. There was a loud thud and a pall of smoke rose at the west end of the station. It happened either in or close to a cabinet housing high voltage electrical

No injuries were reported, but there was large-scale disruption to the train services and surrounding roads were blocked off and car parks closed strand-

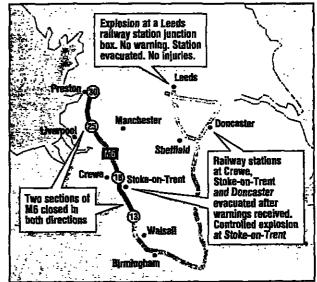
Buildings, including offices, shops and hotels within a quarter of a mile radius of the sta-

By lunchtime the city was beginning to return to normal, although the train station re-

Similar problems were experienced in the other three towns. The second explosion took place on a road bridge in Doncaster, but again no-one

The Freight Transport Association underlined the economic toll dealt by the terrorists' blocking industry's arterial routes, estimating that up to 40,000 heavy goods vehicles a day use the sections of the M6 closed in the latest alert - cost-

ing around £1.2 million an hour. On the railways, the FIA said at around 100 freight trains a day would normally run through the Crewe and Don-



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Affronted Tusa sweeps away the Baroness's muses

Arts News Editor

the Barbican's entrance.
Mr Tusa's office overlooks the

Muses' backsides. And he is understood to be so enraged by having to view the much criticised statues every working day that he has ordered their re-

in clay, cast in resin and then gilded, were commissioned by er, yesterday a Barbican spokes-woman said they would indeed Baroness Detta O'Cathain, be going.
She said: "The nine muses bican, in 1993 as part of a £9m refurbishment plan. They were of the Pentagram refurbishmeant to symbolise the inspi-rational qualities of the arts.

They were designed by the late Theo Crosby for the design is an overwhelming consensus

sculpted by Bernard Sindall When Baroness O'Cathain fell out with the City of London sum up the spirit of what we and Corporation, which owns and finances the Barbican, Mr Tusa, former head of the BBC World cided to remove them." Service, was appointed to re-

ceived an open letter from a City of London Corporation former artistic director of the stores as disposable assets. The centre Humphrey Burton, ad- corporation refused to make vising him: "The first thing you any official comment.

should do when you get there is to remove the tatty, gold-plated, big-breasted statues repre-John Tusa, the head of the senting the nine Muses which Barbican Centre, is to remove are placed on the canopy outhis predecessor's garish pride side your window above the en-and joy - the nine Muses which trance. Offer them to the City sit above the glazed canopy at Rifle Club for Sunday morning target practice."

In fact he needed no such urging. He has long disliked his daily visual inspiration.

When his office was asked about his intentions earlier in the week it was denied that there were any immediate plans The 8ft tall statues, modelled to remove the Muses. Howevwoman said they would indeed

were a genuine attempt as part ment project to create a warmer, more inviting entrance consultants Pentagram, and that the Muses have not succeeded in their objective of creating a set of symbols that

It is understood the muses will be dismantled within the On his appointment he re- next week, and placed in the



muses posing above the entrance to the Barbican Centre in the City of London, where they have offended John Tusa

Photograph: Mykel Nicolaou

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Cut-price ecstasy flooding market

Jason Bermetto Crime Correspondent

A cut-price version of ecstasy is among three new drugs to have to be made in Britain, although hit the festival and dance markets causing concern that greater numbers of young peoment with illegal substances.

the price of ecstasy. Drug work- rather than in clubs." ers have also reported an influx of "bliss" and DMT, or "busi-

2CB will be of greatest con-

cern because of its low cost and

the fact that drug users are tak-ing it as an alternative or addi-tional stimulant to ecstasy. The use of the latter has caused great controversy following a small number of high-profile deaths, such as that of Leah Betts, who died in 1995 after taking it at her 18th birthday. Although its pop-ularity has waned in the past few years, up to 500,000 doses are still consumed every weekend. 2CB, also known as "nexus", 'spectrum" or "bromo", is related to ecstasy and is becoming increasingly popular at festivals and outdoor raves.

Costing £3 or £4 the hallucino-gen, which is usually a white or pink tablet, heightens the user's visual imagery, body awareness and tactile sensitivity. It is often sold at raves in "party packs" with a eestasy tablet. Taken half an hour after the ecstasy the 2CB gives extra hallucinogenic effects.

The side-effects of this new drug are unknown but there are fears of could long-term psychological damage. It is believed most of it is almost certainly

brought over from Europe. Gary Woolvett, drugs workgal help line Release, said: "We The new drug, known as 2CB, costs as little as £3 for a four-hour "trip" - a quarter of at festivals and outside events

Another newcomer on the drugs market is the ultra-strong (i DMT, which stands for dimethyltriptamine. It is a naturally occurring component of several plants found in the West Indies and South America, and has been used in snuff by South American Indians for centuries. The modern DMT is chem-

ically manufactured and costs £15 for a wrap. The powder is usually smoked with tobacco and has an immediate effect, in-creasing the heart rate and blood pressure. The powerful hallucinogenic effects last for about 30 minutes - hence its street name "businessman's lunch". The side effects include anxiety, panic and psy-chological problems.

The third substance is bliss. LSD. It costs about £3 for a tab. which is usually impregnated on blotting paper, and the effects last for four to eight hours. Drug agencies have noted its availability in Brighton and Bristol in the past six months. The side-

Shops deny BSE profiteering

Glenda Cooper Consumer Affairs Correspondent

A row broke out yesterday as farmers claimed that they had seen the price of beef drop sharply since the BSE crisis, while supermarkets and butchers were keeping prices high. But retailers immediately de-

nied this, saying that their prof-it margins had been hit hard and that prices had come down to one is making a lot of profit." attract customers who had been made wary of beef. Jim Watson, past president of

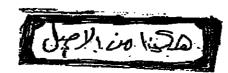
the Livestock Auctioneers' Association and chairman of Midland Marts, said that the average price farmers could sell carcasses for had dropped from £1 a kilo last March before the BSE crisis, to 70-75p now. For a live animal, whose average weight was 600 kilos the average market price per kilo

and farmers are making very, profit."

very substantial losses," said Mr Watson. "Supermarkets and butchers' shops have stayed at the same prices they were charging eighteen months ago. Prices in the shops have not gone down anything like they have come down in the market. If the farmers want to stay in business they have to go on producing meat for a good return. They don't like to see their animals losing money while some-

But Duncan Sinclair, economics policy analyst at the Meat and Livestock Commission, said: "Retail prices in terms of changing are slower to change than producer prices. They don't move up and down so much."

And a spokeswoman for Sainsbury's said the super-market was not making any more profit on beef: "Since BSE we can't use as much of the cow under the new rules, was now 90p compared to £1,20 and so because we can use less of it we are paying less ... we "It is not a level playing field are not making any extra



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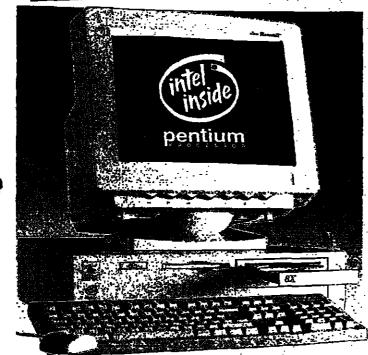
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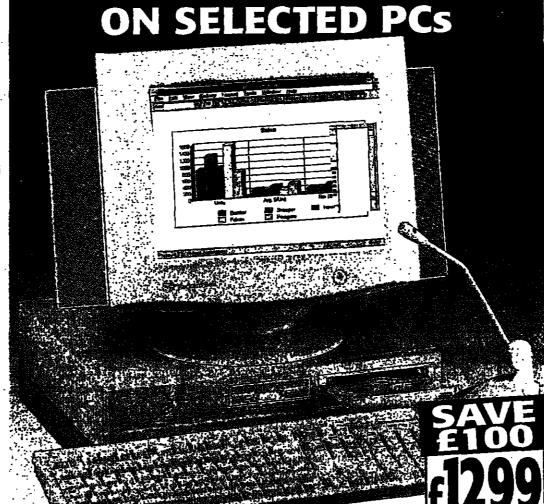
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drama: A dying foal knocked down by a car in Bishop Auckland vainly struggling to get to its legs as children and a police officer look on, powerless to help Urban curse of the four-legged friend

Michael Streeter

For many residents they are a dangerous nuisance, for the owners a way of life. The growing problem of urban horses and ponies is the symbol of a culture clash between expanding populations and the desire of many to keep in touch with rural tradi-

Nowhere is this clash stronger than in Bishop Auckland, Co Durham, where in recent weeks two horses have been killed or had to be put down after collisions with cars. Eighteen months ago an

eight-week old baby was bitten by a horse which forced its way through a garden fence, and there are numerous stories of the animals roaming through private gardens, along busy bypasses and even being raced up high streets.

The problem is now so seri-

ous that Wear Valley district council is studying new legisla-tion passed in Dublin, where the phenomenon of urban ponies was featured in the film The

Councillor Sonny Douthwaite, who is trying to find a solution, fears more injuries. "I'm angry about the loose horses on the road, which are an accident waiting to happen. It's an evergrowing problem." Like many, he recognises the cultural history of people owning horses while living in homes with little or no land. Some inherited the tradition as "residential" travellers, while others simply see it as a pastime."

For some people it's a hobby, like I keep racing pigeons," said Mr Douthwaite. "In the past I've even seen horse's heads sticking out of bedroom

Now the horses - perhaps

more than fifty in the area - can be seen grazing on football pitches, scraps of land and in areas in the middle of busy residential housing estates.

Melanie Atkinson recalled how her son Dexter, then eight weeks old, was bitten on the hand when a pony tied to her garden fence outside broke

warned not to complain about the incident in a town were some of the owners are feared. Inspector Edgar, of the local police, agreed that to try to find some owners was like "finding needles in a haystack. We are seeing more and more horses on the road and with more traffic the likelihood of serious or fa-

6 Nothing will be done until someone gets killed in an accident 9

through. "My daughter looked out and said, 'the baby dead'. She had seen hand in the horse's mouth." Ms Atkinson added: "I was petrified and I am now terrified of horses. The police came but said they could do nothing, as they could not trace the owner." She was also

tal accidents is increasing." One problem is that current laws, including the 1980 Highway Act, are inadequate in dealing with the impounding of loose horses. Local authorities employ a horse catcher but often by the time he arrives the horses have gone. A mooted solution is to create a designated horse impound, on the model of a car impound and charge owners £100 or more to retrieve their animals. Another is to find authority land where the horses, normally kept as pcts, can be safely tethered. However, this approach has ai-ready foundered in St Helen Auckland, where residents objected to having the ponies im-

posed on them. Some animal-welfare experts believe the growth in horse numbers comes from the decline in European markets for UK horse meat, to which some animals were sent, because of the BSE scare. There is also concern over ill-treatment of horses after an incident in which an owner kicked and dragged a

dying pony after a car hit it. Martin Taggart, director of welfare of the British Horse Society, believes the key is to ensure owners respect their animals. "This is a fester over the whole North-east area and is something we take extremely seriously. We want to encourage responsible horse ownership." Karl Metcalfe, whose father keeps horses, said the answer was to keep them as they did on rented farmland and keep proper control. "They don't need to be on the streets." Another resident summed up their fears: "Nothing will be done until someone gets killed

Irish plagued with cavalry of wild horses

By the endeasive new powers with enable councils across the hish Republic to crack the with ageinst urban cavalities of loose horses by that territy motorists by crashing through wind-

cliers at play.

The measures, being examined by local authorities in the North-east of England. include compulsory licensing and registration and mi-

crotchip tagging.

Owners will be charged for impounded horses and wandering porties seized a number of immes may be sold or put down. A key change will be bearing children under 16 from buying or owning hors-

Though city horses evoke images of devil-may-care adolescents and quirky scenes of ple-baid nags grazing on front lawns such as seein The Commitments and the children's film advention into the West, the reiten less comical: Today "loose horses"

wattiges on main Dublin roads are a regular feature on traffic bulletins. The city's horse population has been

estimated at close to 5,000. The need for the new laws was driven by public anger at a series of horrific incidents in recent years. Several road accidents were caused by collisions, often at night, involving unattended animals.

Thursday saw the latest in a series of frightening accidents caused by ponies run-ning into toddlers when a child suffered serious in-Juries after being dragged for 20 yards by a horse in Clon-

dalkin in south-west Dublin. Previous incidents have seen toddlers being kicked in the face.

The new laws were passed by the Dail in the New Year and will be enacted in the coming weeks. They will apply to urban centres rather than rural areas, so stud farms and working farm horses will not be affected.

Despite the clampdown, some claim benefits in city children learning about horses and in Dublin, experi-ments with stables in working-class areas have offered an alternative to the chaos of wandering ponies.

Alan Murdoch

Pension change drives out head teachers

Judith Judd Education Editor

An unprecedented exodus of headteachers has been trig. gered by the Government's changes to teachers' pension arrangements. Vacancies for heads are at record levels - up almost a third on the same time last year - and advertisements for primary heads are up by more than a half.

Under the new pension rules, to be introduced in September. the main responsibility for pen-sion payments will be shifted from the Treasury to hard-pressed local authorities.

Ministers originally proposed to bring in the changes from April but backed down under pressure from teachers' unions. Critics warned that the postponement would mean even more teachers flocked to retirement. The resignation crisis is most noticeable among pri-

mary heads. David Hart, general secretary of the National Association of Head Teachers, said the new government would need immediately to tackle the problem. "It is the culmination of persistent attacks on the teaching profession. Heads don't feel they get the recognition they de-serve," he said. "The politicians are talking about how to im-prove teachers' status by means other than pay and conditions but it is improved pay and conditions that will stop the exodus-of heads."

Yesterday's Times Educa-tional Supplement, the teachers trade paper, contained advertisements for 175 primary heads. Last week the figure was 168. The total for the same two weeks last year was 199.

Mr Hart said the number of acting heads was at an all-time record because schools cannot find suitable candidates for

headships.
A spokesman for the Local
Government Management Board, the teachers' employers organisation, said: Schools have to do a balancing act between getting another classroom teacher, paying the head more and buying more books."

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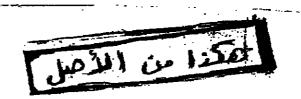
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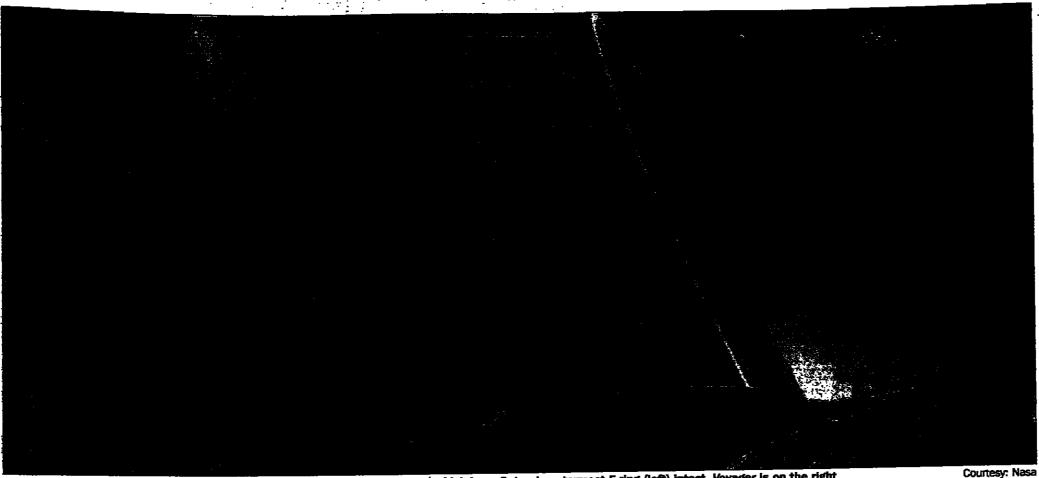
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Lunar landscape: An impression of the surface of Pandora, one of the moons which keep Saturn's outermost F-ring (left) intact. Voyager is on the right

Astronomers run rings round Saturn

Charles Arthur Science Editor

This is how the the sky might look from within one of Saturn's most unusual rings.

the sixth and outermost "F-ring".

Astronomers at Queen Mary & Westfield College in London have analysed data from the Voyager spacecraft and found that the F-ring consists of not one, but four interwoven strands of dust and ice. It also exhibits strange phenomena, such as "kinks" in the

tidy lines, as well as clumps and braids - unlike the other rings. The scientists now reckon that the F-ring is kept together by an unknown number of "shepherding moons" about a kilometre in diameter which orbit near and even within it. Otherwise, the ring would be broken up by the intrusion of the moon Prometheus whose elliptical orbit brings it into the ring every 19 years, causing huge disruption. It is believed the small moons cause the "kinks".

Astronomers remain perplexed by the Fring, because it is also the thickest. One of the main purposes of the Cassini craft, to be launched this October, will be to unravel more of its secrets. Kevin Beurle of QMW said: "It's incredibly complex, so we want to know more. It really is very strange."

77 years for gang who raped tourist

Seven teenagers who gang-raped an Austrian tourist before tenced later once reports on him are completed. hurling her naked into a canal to swim for her life were sentenced to a total of 77 years' detention at the Old Bailey

The Recorder of London, Sir Verney QC, sentenced five teenagers to 11 peatedly raped the 32-year-old years, one to 10 years and another to 12 years.

tourist, a mother of two who cannot be named for legal reaother to 12 years.

emotion as the sentence was in London. passed, but there were sobs



Walk into terror: The gang's tourist victim

The judge lifted an order ban-ning identification of four of the teenagers, but retained it in relation to three of them.

ers Eduardo Agum, 16, and Allan Agum, 15, of Clapton Square, Hackney, east London; Cesar Cardenas, 15, of Holsworthy Square, Elm Street, Clerkenwell and Nicholas Mavrides, 16, of Rowstock Gardens, Cam-

den, north London. An eighth member of the gang – the 14-year-old "ring-leader" who is 6ft 2in tall – was not before the court today. The boy, who is one of those who cannot be named, is to be senger it."

The judge told the gang:
This case of rape is as horrifying and revolting as any could

The court heard how the gang was aged between 14 and 17 when they "violently and re-None of the boys showed any sons, while she was on holiday

She was kicked, punched, from the public gallery which and subjected to a multiple was packed with members of rape ordeal and other "sexual indignities" during an hourlong ordeal after going for a midnight stroll from her hotel in King's Cross.

Seven of the eight pleaded guilty to rape. Allan Agum, the smallest of the gang at just 4ft 11in, denied the charge, but was convicted last week by

an Old Bailey jury.

The victim was not in court, but her husband sat in the pub-

Despite showing no emotion during the sentencing, it emerged later that the youths broke down in tears after being taken down to the cells. Passing sentence, Sir

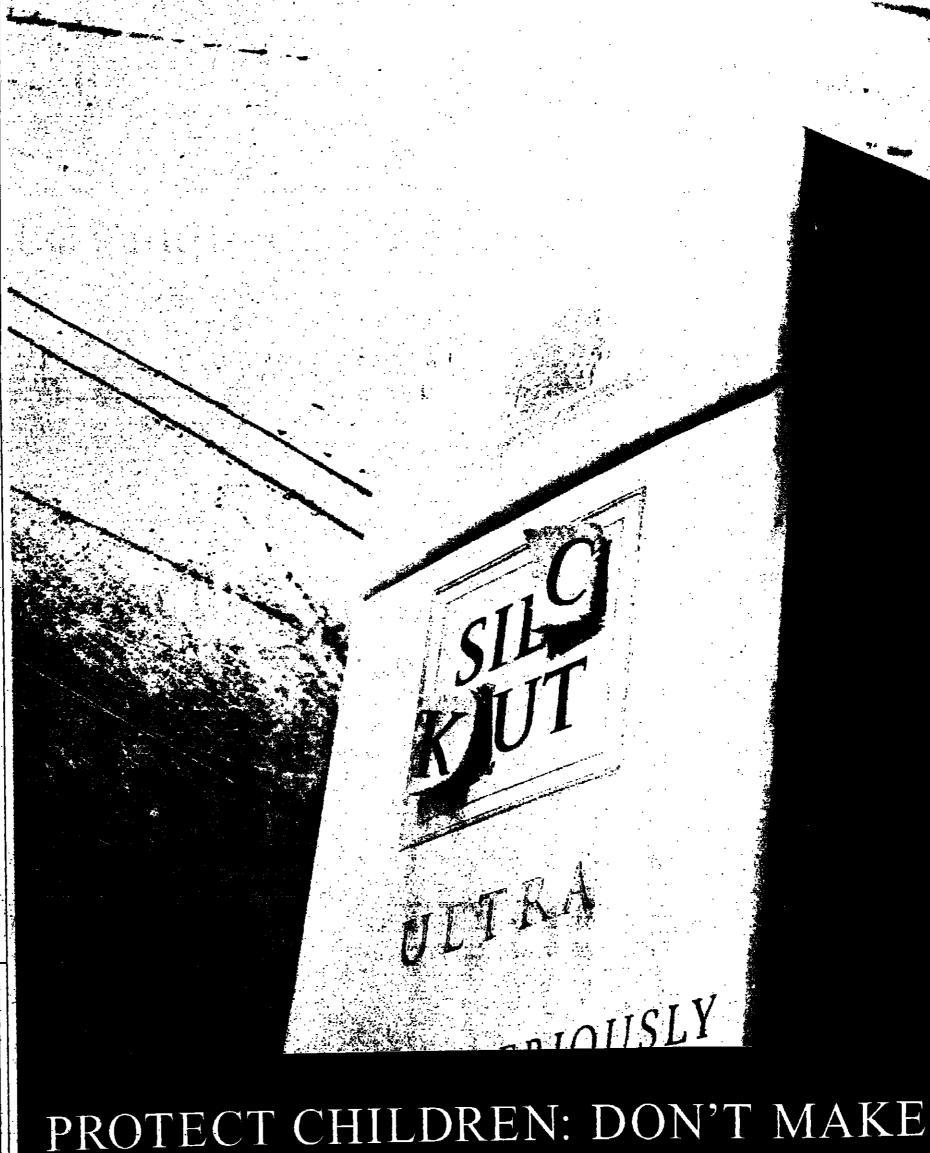
Lawrence said of the case: "It contains aggravating features of exceptional wickedness, which merit exceptional sentences that combine punishment with a clear warning to any others who may contemplate similar conduct.

The judge continued: "You Those who can now be named are Filipino-born brothers Eduardo Agum, 16, and Allan Agum, 15, of Clapton

Allan Agum, 15, of Clapton

"Because one of you contested the charge, the court has head the victim gave evidence and describe her appalling experi-

"No-one who has listened to her account is ever likely to for-



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THE INDEPENDENT election

Let MPs vote on Euro job laws, Major urges Blair

PM's challenge assumes a Labour election win

Anthony Bevins Political Editor

Iohn Major yesterday chal-lenged Tony Blair to put the European Social Chapter through the British Parliament, if Labour wins the election on 1 May. The challenge was curious because it sug-gested a belief that Mr Blair could well become Prime Minister.

But, most significantly, Mr Major was also urging the Labour leader to do something the Conservatives have never done themselves; retaining the sovereignty of the Westminster Parliament over European legislation.

Under the treaties of the European Union, European law is mainly initiated by the Brussels machinery, and once it is sanctioned by the Council of Ministers, it becomes supreme law - even to the point of over-riding existing Westminster statute.

The Conservative leader told his daily election press conference yesterday that the danger of the European Social Chapter favoured by Labour was that it would import high European unemployment into Britain, and that once Mr Blair had signed up to it, it would then be locked in for

cial Chapter and the Employment Chapter, and all this nonsense he talks about, which will damage our prosperity and our jobs, I make this challenge - Put it through the through the British Parlia-British Parliament if you are to

win the general election. "The British people can

then repeal it, so the British nation can then decide whether it's right, and if it fails the British Parliament can then

Put it through Europe, where it will not have proper debate, where it will have damaging effects on British interests, and it could not be repealed.

Thatcher's 'no' vote

Baroness Thatcher ig-nored John Major's appeals for the Tory party to rally round the Government on the euro.

When asked on a visit to an electronics company in Maldon, Essex, whether Britain should join a single currency, there came the vintage Thatcher response: "I invented the

answer - No. No. No. "It is like I have been saying to the candidates. are you trying to become a member of Parliament only to hand over the powers of Parliament to Brussels, a non-elected bureaucracy? ... There is now nearly a single currency ... the dollar, it's not a single currency, it's a common currency."

'For what credible reason Issuing his challenge to Mr will he not put these vital mea-Blair, the Prime Minister then sures through the British Paradded: "If he thinks it is right liament? If he believes in them, to go down the route of the So- I believe that is what he should do, and I challenge him to say

why he will not do it." Mr Major was asked by The Independent why he had not put European legislation ment in the same way, but he did not reply. In fact, Mr Major's govern-

ment has even been criticised

by the all-party Commons Committee on European Legislation for allowing law to be pushed through the Brussels machine - with the blessing of Mr Major's ministerial colleagues - without MPs being provided with up-to-date drafts in English.

Mr Major said on BBC television Question Time on Thursday night that the Social Chapter "hasn't got much in it at the moment, quite frankly."

But he warned: "It would open up the possibility of all sorts of elements of the European social model being legislated for in Britain by Qualified Majority Vote, but imposed upon British business, adding to their costs and costing us British jobs." Opening the press confer-

ence, Mr Major - for the third day running - put Europe at the top of his agenda, sug-gesting that the Conservative campaign considers there are net électoral gains to be made from the issue.

In a statement, Mr Major warned that European and British trade unionists were proposing to use European law to give power back to the unions "through Labour's sellout" to Europe.

"If Labour won, the British government would have to negotiate every new employment law with the European trades unions. "And British companies -

perhaps as small as 50 emhow they ran their business with a union representative on their new works council. "It might not be beer and

sandwiches. More like beer and baguettes. But the danger would be just as great."



Cheers: The Prime Minister raises his glass during a visit to the new Bolton Wanderers soccer stadium yesterday

Settling immortality's accounts

Peter Popham

As they sift the relics of the last years of the 20th century, archaeologists will be bewildered by the number of plaques, stones, memorials and markers bearing the name John Ma-jor and dated in April 1997.

On Wednesday he and Lady Thatcher unveiled a plaque on a building completed long ago. Yesterday Mr Major laid a stone in the wall of a stadium is months away from getting a roof. and as yet unnamed Like yesterday's sudden eruption of

ployees - would have to agree ennoblement, this flurry of setting and unveiling and commemorating is an understandable impuise, a final fling at the levers of power and immortality while they are still within his reach. The only plausible explanation for the Prime Minister's persistently sunny demeanour during the

campaign is that he is already demob happy. In this mood he ranges the country, leaving his mark of ownership on every lamp post. For the one unchallengeable advantage the Tories have over Labour is that they have been in power for 18 years. Whatever has been done, has been done under

The nameless stadium, provisionally known as "Reebok", will be the new home for Bolton Wanderers, the phoenix of Northern football. Established in 1874 and a founding mem ber of the Football League, it spent years in the doldrums but has bounded back this year. Completion of the stadium later this year will clinch a glorious spell for the club, whatever they decide to call it. Everything Mr Major goes near these days is the biggest, the best, the most something or other in Europe. "Reebok" is

sive new football stadium. It will not, however, bankrupt the club, because it is lavishly set about with retail units, leisure facilities, a multiplex cinema, housing and even factories. Four miles out of Bolton's original centre, it is the snake sloughing its Victorian skin and starting over. Fans of the Trotters, as the club is known. come out and sit on benches here just to watch the stadium being boilt. It's a relief and a surprise to find a new Tory structure that is not dotted with weathercocks and finished to look like a child-size Tudor manor house. "Reebok" is a heroic structure, with massive steel masts and curving roof members and no discernible reference to any period earlier than the 20th century. In its present state it

looks like a giant game of cat's cra-

dle. But of course it's not really a

Tory structure at all, having been developed by an alliance of the football club and the Labour-controlled council with a developer. So MR Major's hijacking of it was a cheek, though one connived at by the club itself. As photo opportunities go, it was pl ticularly futile, as Mr Major could not even bring himself to kick a halllet alone engage in a bout of beading with the legendary Nat Lofthouse, Bolton's president and still the club's highest goal-scorer, the man who sealed the 1953 FA Cup victory by shoving the Manchester United goalkeeper over the line (or so it was alleged). Tony Blair's brilliant career in the popularity ratings, reporters recalled, can be dated to his heading bout with Kevin Keegan, Might not Mr Major have pulled off a similar coup? Possibly, but he wasn't going to

Tories take cash bait from millionaire foe of EMU

Christian Wolmar

Paul Sykes, the multi-millionaire who is funding Tory candidates candidates who agree with the opposed to the single currency, predicted yesterday that all but am doing this out of love for my currency and rule it out now. It is a project being pushed forward by bureaucrats and technical street in the currency and rule it out now. It is a project being pushed forward by bureaucrats and technical street. around 30 of those eligible will take up his offer of support.

Mr Sykes is giving between £1,000 and £3,000 to the constituency associations of MPs who say they are opposed to a single currency in their election

He is only giving money to the associations of the 344 seats where Tories won last time and he says that by last night 230 had accepted his offer. "With around 80 ministers who have to follow the party line, that leaves fewer than 30 MPs and

Sykes predicts most candidates will accept his aid to stop march of federalism

countrymen. I think ordinary people are having a rotten

The miner's son from Barnsley who made a fortune in various businesses, including selling second hand buses, prop-erty and now information technology, regrets having stood down as Conservative candidate in the town over concerns that he would divided the party on Ецгоре.

He said: "It is clear that nearly all MPs agree with me that we should rule out a single nocrats, and politicians are just being dragged along. Mr Sykes is a self-made man

who in his youth was a socialist but he became disillusioned by the culture created by dependency on the state: "My mother saved up to get a new door and fireplace on her council house. But when the local councillor, Comrade so-andso, saw the door, the council made her take it off because it was different from the others. They let her keep the fireplace,

a job as a bottle packer but found that he wasn't allowed to work overtime because of union rules. This led him to cross the political divide.

His first business was selling old buses to Third World countries and he became a millionaire by the age of 24. He is now 53 and worth "at least three figures" of millions. Mr Sykes says his gesture in

supporting candidates is to help stimulate debate in the party, and not to try to buy favours: They haven't changed their stance because of my money. They know the feeling of peo-

He left school at 15 and took job as a bottle packer but and they know ordinary people do not want a federal Europe. All debate is being stifled. Maastricht was a rotten deal."

Despite being a business-

man in a sphere which is international. Mr Sykes has absolutely no truck with the arguments in favour of a single currency. "The single currency is not just about going abroad without having to change money. It's about creating a feder-al Europe. Chancellor Kohl is quite straight about that. There is no example in the world where you have a sovereign country which doesn't have its

own currency. Commons sense tells you that it will ultimately become a single country."

He is not, however, anti-Europe: "Germany is one of the biggest investors here. I want free trade, not a federal Eu-

rope."
Mr Sykes, who retains his strong Yorkshire accent and a typically blunt view of the world, lives in a 17th-century manor house in North Yorkshire with his wife and the two youngest of his children. He says he will not pass on any of his wealth to them: "I am not going to leave them any money. I don't want to ruin their lives."



Sylves: 'I am doing this out of love for my countrymen'

THE CAMPAIGN

While John Major returned, for the third consecutive day, to Europe, Labour and the Liberal Democrats preferred to concentrate on law and order; one of the issues that many voters say they are very concerned

At the first press conference of the day, Alan Belth, the Liberal Democrats' home affairs spokesmen, proposed measures to combat juvenile crime. The package included developing schemes to identify disruptive children at an early stage, a national truancy watch scheme, and the establishment of a voluntary citizen's service for young people; providing up to two years' community service.

Jack Straw, Labour's spokesman proposed swift action to reform the Crown Prosecution Service, with an independent review of structures, policies and procedures to be completed within a year of the party

Labour is proposing a chief crown prosecutor, a sort of US-style district attorney, for each police force area in the country, to help reverse "the steady decline in the number of convictions since the 1980s". But Michael Howard said 'Jack Straw clearly does not understand the changes we have already made to de-centralise the CPS*, adding that only the Conservatives would take the tough measures needed on crime.

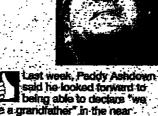
KEY ARGUMENTS

Gordon Brown, the shadow Chancellor, again attacked the Liberal Democrats' tax-and-spend policies - a reflection of the frustration Labour is feeling with the "chattering class' perception that Paddy Ashdown and his party represent a new radicalism.

He also said that yesterday's Conservative advert depicting Tony Blair as a puppet on Chancellor Kohl's knee was an act of "desperation". The Liberal Democrats supported

the idea of tactical voting to try and out the Conservatives, with campaign manager Lord Holme saying; "We as Liberal Democrats always had the quandary of the British voting system, and within these constraints we want people to cast an effective vote. There is no doubt for many people in many constituencies their overriding wish is to get rid of this shambolic-

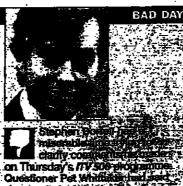
government.*
John Major's argument on Europe was an echo of Margaret Thatcher's famous Bruges speech from the late 1980s. She said she had not rolled back the frontiers of the state, to have socialism return through the back door of Brussels; Mr Major said the trades unions were poised to use Europe as a route to return to their old ways.



are a grandfather" in the near future. Yesterday he did so, as he made plans to visit his new grandson, who was born on Thursday in Burgundy. Ashdown is going to France today, and relished auch a good reason to be able to

step off the campaign trait: "I will be scampering off there as fast as i can, and it's going to be a private

THE HURRIED VOTER'S GUIDE



cuestioner Pet Waltiakin nan said she needed a heart bypass, and any doctor carnot contract the hospital which fundholders can Dorrell recommended go and register with a fundiolder go and yesterday protested that he was only speaking up for patient choice, but likes Whittaker letter expressed a dealer to "smack him to that ment."

ONE TO REMEMBER

14 year-old "Tory Boy" Thomas Goodhead launched headlong into the world of politics yesterday morning, phoning the BBC Radio 4's Election Call programme to berate John Prescott. He accused Labour of abandoning its principles to get votes. Although a descendant of Aneurin Bevan, he added that his aim was to go "right to the top" of the Tory party, emulating the success of William Hague who spoke as a teenager at a party conference.

HOGWASH

Michael Heseltine: John Major is the man who has actually got the economy that is the envy of the European Union ... this guy has presided over it in a way that ought to be a matter of huge public consists a opposed to a daily feeding fever by the media." Major also described the last inguitation, saying of Chancellor Kohl: "I've sat around the label with him.

THE OTHER PARTIES

The Green Party declared a campaign of direct action against the BBC after a leaked memo showed programme makers had been ordered to give it minimal coverage. Spokesman Peter Barnett said the BBC saw the Greens as a party for "woolly hats, sandals and beards." Meanwhile

anti-racist groups condemned the BBC for approving a BNP party election broadcast which advocates the repatriation of non-whites, and capital punishment. Lee Jasper, of the National Black Alliance said: "taxpayers" money is going to be used to resource a race hate campaign against



Charcellor Helmut Kohl of Germany featured prominently in the media yesterday, thanks to a Conservative advertisement which showed him controlling a venintoquist's charmy in the shape of Tony Blair. "It is unfair to bring the German Charcellor into the British election campaign like this," said Peter Hintze, general secretary of Kohl's CDU party. "Even allowing for the special nature of the British sense of termour, I don't think it's fair play".

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W LABOUR & OLD

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TRDAY 19 APRIL 185

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SONY

Tories fishing for votes in the Algarve

John Rentoul on wooing the expatriates

Maybe this is what the 56 per cent of Britons who are bored by the election campaign should have done. Members of Conservatives Abroad in the Algarve, in Portugal, have arranged for party workers in Britain to cast proxy votes on their behalf, while they watch the election results on a largescreen television at an all-night party at the Hotel Garbe. "Running finger buffet and pay bar, 2,500 Escudos [£9] per per-

son," says the invitation. But Tory expatriate electionnight parties seem likely to be overshadowed by Labour celebrations in such unlikely places as Hollywood, Cyprus, South Africa and Australia. The New York Labour branch is holding a champagne party in the trendy SoHo brasserie, Pravda.

The Tory plan to mobilise two million potential voters abroad has fizzled out, according to fig-ures released by the Office for National Statistics.

A total of only 23,583 expats have registered for the election - an average of just 36 in each constituency. Even if, as Labour used to fear, expats are overwhelmingly right-leaning in their politics, they are unlikely to tip the result even in a single constituency. Only the Toryheld Vale of Glamorgan was decided by a margin smaller

than this (19 votes) at the last may not vote by post, but can appoint a "proxy" to vote on their behalf in the constituen-

cused the Government of changing the law for party po-litical advantage. The law was first changed in 1985 to allow UK citizens living abroad to vote in British parliamentary and European elections. Conservatives Abroad was formed the following year, and now claims 4,000 members in 49 branches around the world, inchiding 13 in Spain and four in Portugal_

Art Malik, the Labour-sup-

But the Conservatives are in

The law was amended in 1989 to include those who had left the country up to 20 years ago, rather than 10 years. And it was changed again last year, to give expats a tax incentive to register to vote. Registering can no longer be used by the Inland Revenue as one of the fac-tors to decide domicile for tax purposes. Expats who are "domiciled" in Britain have to pay inheritance tax on their worldwide assets when they die. The move, condemned by Labour as "a blatant tax bribe" proved unsuccessful in encour-

aging more expats to register. Malcolm Dumper, elections officer for Southampton city council, said: "Overseas registrations have gone down in recent years."

UK citizens living abroad



Goldsmith loses broadcast plea

The Referendum Party yester- Asked if there would be an day failed in a High Court at- appeal, a Referendum Party tempt to win more party spokesman said: "We are nat-political broadcasts in the run- usally disappointed, but we will

tions by multi-millionaire Sir . advisers the next stage." James Goldsmith's party that it had been "unfairly and unlawfully" limited to one five-minutebroadcast.

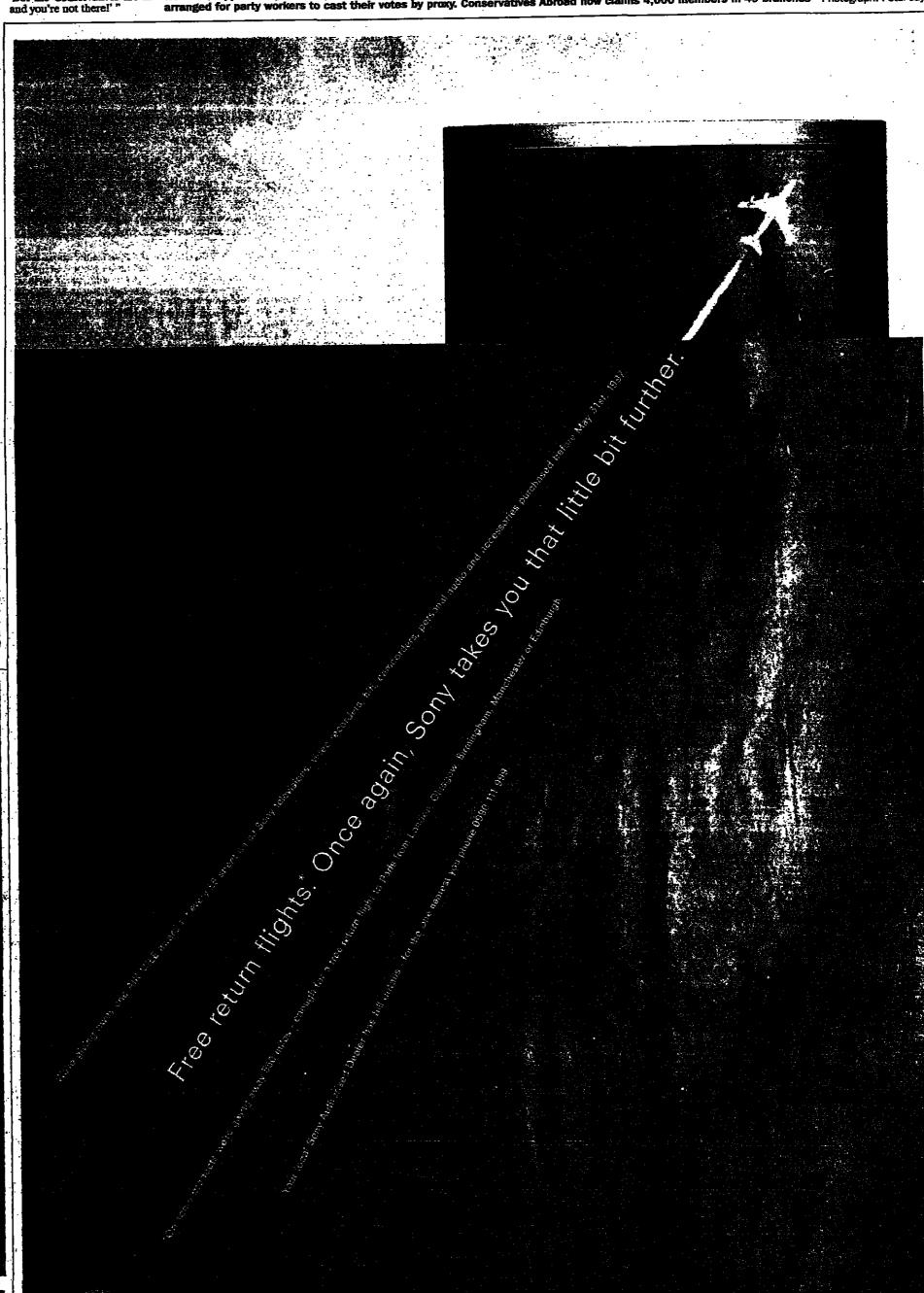
They dismissed applications for judicial review brought against the BBC and the Inde-pendent Television Commission, which had upheld ITV's decision

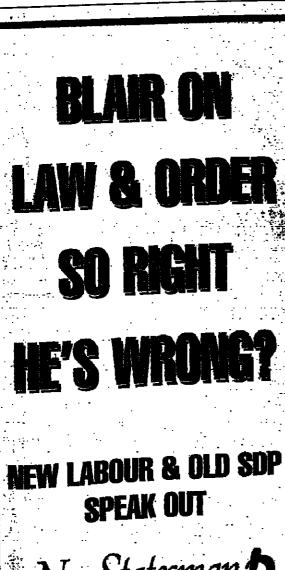
not to allocate more air time. Lord Justice Auld, sitting with Mr Justice Popplewell, said: "For reasons that we shall give in reserved judgments next week, both of these applications

up to the general election. ... consider the judges' reasons Two judges rejected accusa- and then discuss with our legal

Anne Sloman, the BBC's chief political adviser said: "We are absolutely delighted that in reaching their judgment their lordships acknowledged that our decision-making process was entirely proper and fair."

During the one-day hearing, Geoffrey Robertson QC, for the Referendum Party, argued it was a serious contender in the race to form the next Government. It was fielding 547 candidates, yet the three main parties had been given up to 10 times as much air time.





JOHN LEUYD TALKS TO THE GAME OF FOUR & GIMERS. THE THE 98 MAGE BOOK OF NEW STATESMAN INTERVIEWS

A long day's wait and the Prime Minister's answer on Europe deflates 'Question Time' audience They quizzed Major, but prefer Prescott

Paul McCann Media Correspondent

Question Time's producers are based in the same suite of offices as the Wandsworth Job Club. But proximity to south London's unemployed is not allowed to influence the television production company's selec-tion of QT's audience - even if the Home Office minister Ann Widdecombe maintained once that Labour voters must be pretending to be Tories in order to get on and heckle her.

The audience for Thursday night's election QT with John Major were the lucky ones. Capron Productions, which has been making QT for the last three years, estimates that each year more than 30,000 people

apply to be in the audience. But this audience is a tired, harassed, lot. For security reasons, Thursday night's show was switched from studios at London Bridge to BBC Television Centre at the last minute and the recording delayed.

Unlike the usual QTs which travel the country, the audience has come from all overthe country and had been waiting for hours in the BBC's audience reception centre. For obscure reasons of fire safety the reception centre doesn't have enough chairs for them all. "He's getting very bolshie,"

says worried producer Sue Ayling, indicating a tall man in a hacking jacket and Liberal Democrat sticker. "I think he's a

Tory," she says oddly.
The QT audience strongly disproves smart media assumptions about electoral ap-These people are refreshingly serious about who runs the country.

Before coming Julie Page, 34, from Redcar asked amongst her friends to see what they would ask the prime minister: "I feel quite a responsibility," she said, because I'm representing a



Airing their views: David Dimbleby warming up the Question Time audience before John Major (above) finally makes his appearance Photographs: BBC

6 That was very boring and very disappointing. But I did get on the telly 9

lot of people." She also read more newspapers and tried to keep up with the election, but she was a political animal anyway. "I shout at the screen ry week," she says.

Others are hoping to get their question asked so they can alter the nature of the debate: The environment just has not been mentioned," said Rachel Jennings, 27, a member of Friends of the Earth from Leicester. "I wanted to make sure it gets some airing in the

Her partner, Tony Thapar, 27, is another shouter: "Heseltine, definitely. He makes me swear at the telly

Mr Boulton, 45, a road accident specialist from near Stokeon-Trent, takes his love of televised politics a step further. "I record the news if I think I'm going to miss it," he says. As a Tory Mr Boulton is sorry about being on when John Major is the guest because he doesn't want to "bowl him any low

Eventually the audience is allowed into the studio and a Mr Stirling-Whyte enquires about how to get into the front row. "They're all getting it taped at home you know," says one of the producers."

Settling into their seats the audience indulges in mass hairprimping, lipstick-applying, and tie-straightening.

But still no sign of John Ma-

Nicholas Schoon Environment Correspondent

Funny things happen in elec-

extremely rare and unusual

Take the case of John Gum-

Environment. He has just

slapped a Nature Conservation

Order on an environmentally

precious patch of chalk down-

land in East Sussex to stop a

farmer ploughing it up to plant

the rest of the time.

video of QT from the last three years to get in the mood. This is standard practice at every QT, but the grilling ministers are giv-en on the tape, about everything from the Scott report to BSE, probably just serves to remind

the audience of the shambles

the night's guest has presided

Few of the audience come expecting to be won over, but there are moments of the kind of voter clarity that gets lost in opinion polls: "I came because I'm working for the Liberal Democrats," says Katie Path, 20, a politics student at the University of Greenwich, "but if

Major convinces me he could

sort out Northern Ireland I

would vote for him. I feel very

strongly about getting peace

After a warm-up with some BBC executives, nine lucky people are told their question will be one of those asked direct to the prime minister.

The studio manager then juggles around whole rows, swapping the questioners in their seats. This is supposedly for the benefit of boom mikes and cameras, but you can tell everyone suspects there is some aesthetic censorship go-

Mr Stirling-Whyte ends up in a middle row. One woman sitting behind someone whose question will be asked looks pleased. She'll be on screen, but won't have to worry throughout

the programme about fluffing

Eventually, after a slight nervous hesitation in the wings, Mr Major appears. He need not have worried.

Most of the audience has been on the hoof since lunchtime and it is now 10.30pm. They are tired and for his first 20 minutes Mr Major tackles the intricacies of Conservative policy on Europe. After that the wind is well and

truly out of the audience's sails.
That was very boring and very disappointing," says Rachel Jennings afterwards. But she did get a question in, "So I did get on the telly." But on the whole most of the people spoken to by The Independent would rather

have seen John Prescott.

Gummer vaunts his green credentials main

A veiwers' institution

Question Time was first transmitted on 25 September 1979, and since then has become a political institution. Broadcast every Thursday evening on BBC1 during the political season, it allows members of the public to put their questions to politicians and key people from a variety of spheres.

Question Time is broadcast from all parts of the country, as well as from Washington and Paris.

It has the largest audience of any political discussion programme - around 4 million, and a studio audience of 200, who are able to cast their vote electronically on a range of issues. There have been more than 1,700 pannelists since the programme began.

The pregramme has been presented by David Dimble-by since January 1994. His predecessors were Peter Sistems (1989-1993) and Sir Robin Day (1979-89).

QUOTES OF THE DAY

You're not in Nigeria. You can't buy policies with cash here you know - Millionaire Paul Sykes, who offered to help pay election expenses for Tory candidates opposed to the Government's "wait-and-

I have had communications with my grandson. It was not a soundbite, I can

see" policy on Europe

- Paddy Ashdown on the new family member

There are only four parties seeking government, and the Referendum Party is one of them Referendum Party lawyer Geoffrey Robertson QC argues for more election broadcasts

It did not occur to me that Mr Dorrell would come out with what he said. I was in

- Pet Whittaker, responding to a the minister's suggestion that she change to a fundholding GP in order to secure a heart bypass operation

Good heavens no! ... I have been saying to the candidates, are you trying to become a member of Parliament only to hand over the powers of Parliament to Brussels, a

TO. TO. - Lady Thatcher, asked whether Britain should enter the single currency

We are going to make the most comprehensive attack on crime this country has - Tony Blair's party election

We were unable to have nurses here because they were specifically told they would lose their jobs Local councillor Jean Smith explains why there were no nurses at a Liberal Democrat campaign meeting in Chard

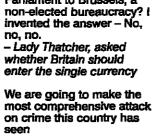
Edwina Currie's opinion of the Conservatives

estate car

COMING

winter,

"dummv" adverts Compiled by Sam Coates



It is only the fourth such order to protect an officially designated wildlife site that he has made in his four years in the job. He did so after Friends of the Earth highlighted the threat to the orchid and butterfly-rich patch of countryside on the South Downs near Lewes last week, and the Labour Party and the Liberal Democrats became

very agitated. Stranger still is the fact that English Nature, the govern-ment agency which is its offi-cial adviser on these matters, had earlier decided that the threatened part of this particular Site of Special Scientific Interest was not of "National Importance" - so it was not worth asking Mr Gummer to



intervene to save it. Mr Gummer asked English

Nature to think again about its advice to him - very quickly and very hard. Now, it appears, the advice has changed. "Significant populations" of two wildflowers, both very rare in the United Kingdom - the bastard toadflax and the round-headed rampion - have been dis-

covered at the site. And so he has decided to grant a Nature Conservation Order.

That means Farmer Justin Harmer is forbidden from ploughing the grassland for nine months while he carries on negotiating with English Nature about how the land should

He had already ploughed declined to say anything about ganisation - and a flurry of survive.

part of it, because the European Union cash subsidies he can get for planting flax are

much more generous than British government farm subsidies for protecting wildlife -and English Nature declined to pay anything like enough to make up the difference.

the site or its advice to Mr Gummer or the site "because this has become a political matter, and as a government

agency we can't get involved in

politics during an election." But the secretary of state's unusual request for English Nature to reconsider the matter Yesterday English Nature caused anxiety within the orhome to rare species of flora and fauna hotograph: Andrew Buurman

Precious flower: The field

at Offham farm which is

tense exchanges between its Peterborough headquarters and its local office which covers the South Downs area, "We're not enjoying this at all," said one of its staff.

The Department of the Environment, which also takes extra care to be non-political during election campaigns, said: Information has only recently become available ta justify the site as being of na-

tional importance." However unusual all this has been, the fact is that Mr Gummer has saved a wildlife site in the full glare of election publicity. Friends of the Earth is delighted - while still fulminating against the legal loopholes and warped subsidies which still allows similar sites

to be threatened. The ending gets even happier. Yesterday. Farmer Harmer decided to help environmental protesters unplough the part of the site he had already damaged. They are turning the turves cut by the plough grass-side up again, in the hope that the flowers will



Barrie Clement

Health Trusts throughout Britain came under fire yesterday for refusing to allow nurses to make their voices heard at the hustings.

Trust employees all over the country have been prevented from contributing to local de-bate by "gagging" clauses in their contracts.

In Chard, Somerset, Paddy Ashdown attacked senior administrators at the local hospital for preventing nurses from participating in a public meeting on health.

On Thursday Mr. Ashdown claimed he was stopped from visiting the Ambulance Trust for Brecon by management who said they did not want their staff

Mr Ashdown said: "The same thing has happened wherever we've been on the campaign. That's why we have not seen any nurses at our discussions on health. This gagging is outra-geous and interferes with the

democratic rights of nurses."

Both the Liberal Democrat and Labour argue that such bans can only benefit the Goverument, which is aware of low morale in the service.

Jean Smith, a Liberal Democrat councillor in Chard, asked nurses at Taunton and Somerset NHS Trust to join an "open circle" on health presided over by Mr Ashdown. Initially she received a

ministrator who told me that it would not be possible. I contacted a nurse in another Trust and she said it was more than her job was worth."

The open circle, involving doctors, pharmacists and other health experts, went ahead in the absence of nursing representatives.
Local GP Dr Kate Staveley

told Mr Ashdown that the staffing was so low at a local community hospital that patients were better off at home.

"One of my patients went to the hospital because we were unable to find out what was wrong with her. But she stopping drinking there and bebetter health education. dehydrated. She

unable to look after her and ensure she had enough to drink. her at home and within a fort-

night she was much better." Edith Hurr, a 67-year-old confined to a wheelchair, told the meeting that on the top floor of the community hospital there was only one qualified nurse for

25 patients.

If someone had a cardiac, the other 24 would have to fend

for themselves," he said. Mr Ashdown asked the meeting what they would do if they were Health Secretary Stephen Dorrell for a day. Most emphasised the need for

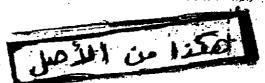
ments and that patients should be taught to look after them-Her niece agreed to look after selves unless there was a serious problem. Edward McNally, chief ex-

ecutive of the Taunton and Somerset NHS Trust, said he had issued no special instructions to prevent employees attending the meeting, but his organisation abided by a circular which had been issued by the Department of Health.
Mr McNally said the advice

was that NHS staff should remain politically impartial. They should not appear at political meetings in a professional capacity especially at election times. He said the circular had been issued some years ago.



Ashdown: 'It's an outrageous violation of nurses' rights'



Spitting Image: Tory attack on Blair

mimics famous US election cover

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ATTRIBATE APRIL

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Mara and Libra

Presents Court Both at Minter Gem whiche

Items to the species?

April 1882

be given no more than one feature on each of Newsnight, the Six O'Clock News, Radio 5 and the Radio 4 Today programme in the entire campaign. It states that requests by minor parties to feature alongside the main parties on programmes like Question Time and Any Questions are "not likely to

The Greens, who described their treatment by the BBC as "shabby and disreputable", argue that if they were given airtime to reflect their share of the vote, they would receive more

One of the great perennial

election bogeys of the post-war

decades was wheeled out yes-

terday - the "loony left" defence

policy.
Michael Portillo, Secretary of

State for Defence, said aban-

doning nuclear weapons and wall-drawing from Nato would

lease the armed forces impotent,

duringe the country's reputation

familiar. Mr Portillo had a new

thinger. This election's unilateratives are not in new Labour, its

CND image excised by Messrs

Kinnock, Smith and Blair, but

Scottish National Party.

But though the thetoric was

und destroy defence jobs.



Greens to act over BBC's

'unfair' election coverage

David Icke, who resigned in 1991, is still regarded as a Green

loony-left defence policy. It is have 9,000 regular troops. The

athy among young voters who feel there is no alter- native to the mainstream parties and their obsession with the floating voters of Middle England.

Peter Barnett, the party's spokesman, said the Greens were ridiculed by the BBC as a party for "woolly hats, sandals and beards". In a rare mention, the BBC continued to associate

"The SNP has a vintage

easily the most left-wing defence policy on offer at this election, Mr Portillo told an Edinburgh

news conference. Outside was

the Tories' latest poster, a car-

toon pillorying the Nationalists in a "Hands Up" style once used

phased, "but complete", with-

drawal of Trident from the

Clyde. The party's objection to nuclear weapons would be in-

compatible with membership of

Nato and so it proposes a phased

withdrawal from that too, though a free Scotland would still

co-operate with the alliance.

In an independent Scotland,

against Labour.

pressed in this country and such a part of people's lives in other countries," he said.

trous showing.

Their failings contrast stark- have been used to field more ly with the success of Greens in general election candidates.

Senior figures in the party said the lack of coverage was partly responsible for the political apwhy green politics are sup-

> The Greens, who fielded more than 250 candidates in the last election, blame the lack of media coverage for their disas-

The Scottish Army would

Scottish Navy would have a

surface fleet and submarines

and there would be a conven-

Portillo slates nuclear policy

tional air force. But Mr Portillo said the forces proposed by the SNP would be incapable of engaging in "high intensity conflict" and there-fore unable to take part in maintaining peace around the world.

the SNP would negotiate a Many defence industry jobs would also be at risk. "It is implausible that in a separate Scotland, that Scottish industries should go on supplying the needs of armed forces in other parts of the United Kingdom,"

But Michael Russell, chief exnuclear weapons?" he asked.

had lost 20,000 defence-related iobs since 1992 under Mr Portillo's stewardship. "Portillo should be coming to Scotland to apologise ... not to display his usual breathtaking arrogance."

The SNP is promising to spend £70m over four years to help industries diversify away from weapons production. All service personnel and MoD employees from Scotland would be offered an opportunity to transfer to the new state's forces. Mr Russell said Scots were "vastly in favour" of getting rid

of atomic weapons. "What small nation of 5 million neople would want to maintain

out on matter of trust

Anthony Bevins Political Editor

John Major last night stirred the controversy over the Tory depiction of Tony Blair as Chancellor Helmut Kohl's dummy, saying the nation would be mad to trust a man who changed his mind "as of-

ten as a grasshopper jumps". The Conservative leader told a party rally in Manchester that while Mr Blair had repeatedly appealed for the voters' trust, was not to be trusted on anything from defence and terrorism through to small businesses and inheritance fax.

"Imagine Britain had trusted what Mr Bluir had said in the past. In 1983, he would have taken Britain out of Europe altogether, in 1986, he would have surrendered our nuclear weapons. In 1986, he would have stopped the creation of the Single Market, In 1991, be would have signed Britain up to the Social Chapter and – if be'd followed his leader – the single

"While the Mr Blair of 1994 boasted he would never see Britain isolated in Europe. Trust me, trust me, trust me, trust me," he's pleaded, as he's drifted from withdrawal through indecision to uncontrolled surrender. Mr Blair changes his mind as often as a grassbopper jumps.

But the Prime Minister then began to mix his imagery, saying that if Mr Blair was representing Britain at the next European summit, European leaders would eat him alive. "It would be like sending a fly to a spiders' convention," he warned.

Mr Major said that along with surrender abroad, Labour was offering division at home, with its plans for devolution. He said Mr Blair would "take the ancient functioning constitution of this kingdom ... and gash through the tapestry with a vandal's knife. The conunited Kingdom drifting towards a United States of



The Conservatives' latest campaign poster and the 'original' from Esquire showing the Democratic candidate Hubert Humphrey as a puppet of the outgoing leader, Lyndon Johnson

Paul McCann Media Correspondent

The Conservative Party's latest ad portraying Tony Blair as a puppet of Germany's Chancellor Kohl is a straight copy of one of the most famous images in the world of adver-

tising and design. The party first claimed that the inspiration for the ad, which has already attracted 30 complaints to the Advertising Standards Authority, came from a sketch by the Deputy Prime Minister Michael Heseltine. If that is the case, then his ownership of the advertising industry trade magazine

Campaign has probably rubbed off. The image in fact comes from a cover for an edition of US Esquire magazine in the late Sixties by the magazine's then art editor George

Green party members are plan-

ning a campaign of direct action

against the BBC in protest at their lack of coverage in the

The party's supporters are fu-

rious at a leaked memo from a

senior BBC news executive

which instructs programme-

makers to give minimal cover-

The memo, seen by The In-

dependent, lumps the Green

Party with the extreme rightwing British National Party and

single-issue parties like the Pro-

Life Alliance and the Referen-

Written by Anne Sloman, the BBC's chief political advis-er, it lays down that the Greens and other "minor" parties will

election campaign.

age to the Greens.

Bad reception for new ad in industry which trades in anti-German feeling

tries and there are 30 Green

Green party activists have al-ready been involved in direct ac-

tions against road-building

projects and the new runway at

Manchester airport, where they

set up the first camp and gave

Lawful direct actions are be-

ing planned next week at BBC

television and radio offices

Candidates have already be-

gun disrupting BBC coverage by exploiting requirements in the

around Britain.

the platform.

protestors a mobile phone.

MEP's sitting in Strasbourg.

the lap of the retiring President Lyndon Johnson.

LABOUR'S POSITION

ON EUROPE.

Humphrey had been LBI's vicepresident and the Esquire cover was emblematic of Humphrey's unwillingness to come out from under LBI's influence and condemn past

"It assumes that the public are ab- he doubted there would be a similar solute idiots who believe whatever you put in your ads. Instead you have to find out what people can be made to believe before you do an ad. I don't think many people will fall for some-

6 It assumes people are idiots but not many will fall for something so blatant 9

policies on the Vietnam war. "Everybody in advertising knows that image," said Dave Trott, partner mittee for a judgement on the 30 comin the advertising agency Walsh Trott.
Chick Smith. "It's an okay image, but The original features Hubert it is informed by an idea of advertis-Humphrey, the US Democratic pres-ing that went out of fashion in the idential candidate in 1968, sitting in Fifties."

The ASA said yesterday it would plaints it had received by telephone

adjudication in this case because the puppet ad is "not in the same league". The ASA was concerned about Demon Eyes because it represented Mr Blair as sinister. Labour said yesterday it would not be complaining to

John Major defended the advertisement: "The concept that the leader of Germany or that the leader of France or the leader of Britain could actually say, 'here I am going off to Amsterdam, I've changed my red flag for a white flag, here are my surrenders, please can I have a seat. if you don't have a seat I'll have a knee' what nonsense.'

However, the pro-European Tory . However an ASA spokesman said Kohl as an ogre of any kind."

The shadow Foreign Secretary Robin Cook condemned the ad as pathetic and said it illustrated how desperate the Conservatives had become: "What makes the poster so pathetic is that Tony Blair is in full command of his party. In stark contrast John Major has given up any pretence he leads his.'

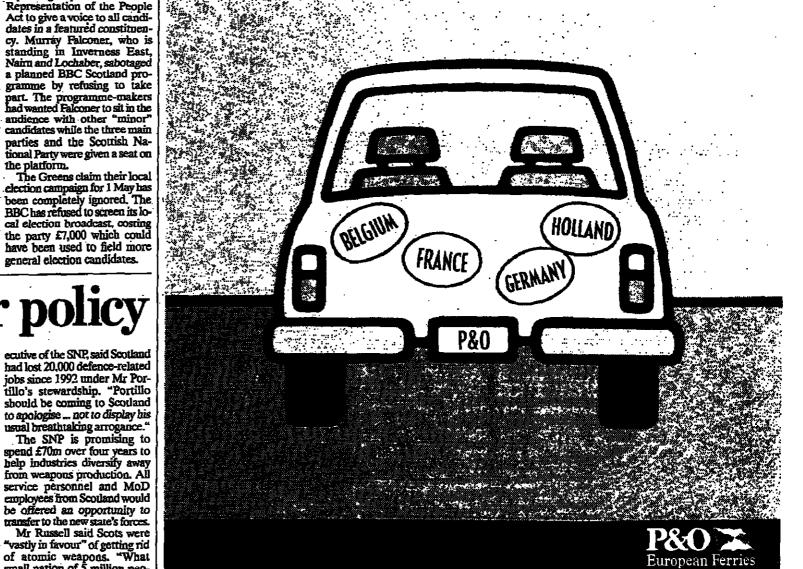
Exploiting British anti-German feeling and stereotypes has become something of a trend in advertising. Most famously, an ad for Carling Black Label mocked the German's supposed fondness for getting to sun loungers first. Even the Germanicsounding beer Lowenbrau was sold last year with a poster campaign mocking the Germans' reputed lack Ironically the Gern upheld complaints last year about the advert as "puerile". She added: "We lager Beck's has been running a should not be portraying Chancellor cantpaign about the threat to German beer from an over powerful EU.



idea came from his sketch

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Disaffected minorities try DIY politics

Randeep Ramesh

The might of the majority is pressing hard on the mind of Pankaj "Peter" Patel, the leader of the Fourth party - the self-styled voice of the ethnic voter.

In the rough trade of modern politics, Mr Patel thinks that minority voters get a raw deal. His thesis is simple. Minorities account for 5 per cent of the population and should have about 30 MPs in parliament.

Lal our's 100 target seats contain only one Asian candidate who, along with two black and two other Asians in safe seats, would join the party's cur-rent five non-white MPs. This is better than the Tories. They will probably lose Nirj Diva, their only Asian MP, in Brentford and Isleworth.

Local hopefuls, Mr Patel claims, have been thwarted by party politics. Even where ethnic voters wield dispropor-

concentrated in one area, they are rarely accorded the privilege of being represented by a home-grown activist.

He claims there were 10 ethnic Labour candidates for Sparkbrook and Smallheath the Birmingham seat he intends to stand in - which ended up with a neighbouring MP, Roger Godsiff, being nominated. Worse still, says Mr Patel, the

Labour party, the traditional home of the ethnic electorate, neglects the immigrant constituency until it needs its votes. "The only time those guys come to help us is four weeks before the election," says Mr

"We are going to field candidates in two constituencies -Perry Barr and Sparkbrook and Smallheath - where ethnic minorities are either the majority or constitute a sizeable minority," he says.

"People here have been let



are only concerned with Middle England's problems." The Fourth Party was born out of a series of editorials Mr

Patel wrote in his own publication, Midland Asian, last year. Calling for a set of proposals that would tackle law and order, education and cure the ailing health service, Mr Patel came to the conclusion that the tionate clout because they are down by the main parties - they traditional parties would not of-

fer practical policies when they could buy off sections of the ethnic community with cheap

The Labour Party always talks of tackling the Kashmiri problem or the concerns of Muslim voters. The Conservatives court the upwardly mobile East African Asian vote. It is a case of divide and conquer, said Mr Patel.

In the fractured world of minority politics, race matters. Mr Patel is a Gujurati and a Hin-du. He is unlikely to win sup-port from the mainly Kashmiri population of Sparkbrook and Smallheath. To do that he has

Javed Akther. Not everyone, Mr Patel admits, can be catered for. "We want to represent all immigrant

enlisted a Muslim accountant,

communities - that includes Afro-Caribbeans, Irish and the Chinese. But practically, it is a question of time. We will concentrate on the south Asian vote for this election. If we win that it means 90 per cent of the minority vote in Sparkbrook that translates to 45 per cent of

the overall vote." This rainbow-coalition theory of politics is difficult to pro-

mote. In a Hindu temple later in the day Mr Patel is trying to soothe a group of Hindu voters concerned about his support for Irish rights. "I thought they were blended in," says one man. "They are fairly blended but there are a lot who are not," explains Mr Patel. "How blended do you have to be?" asks one

old lady. The Labour candidate for

Black perspective: Panka Patel canvassing Gujurati women in Birmingham. who Labour have taken for granted, he says Photograph: Kalpesh Lathigra

Sparkbrook and Smallheath. solidly Labour at the last election with a majority of 13,000. is unimpressed. I want to represent the whole community. says Roger Godsiff "Not just half of it."

Although Mr Patel insists he has never been involved in polities before, on the stump is he is a natural performer. He has already learnt how to cut the cloth of his conversation to impress the electorate.

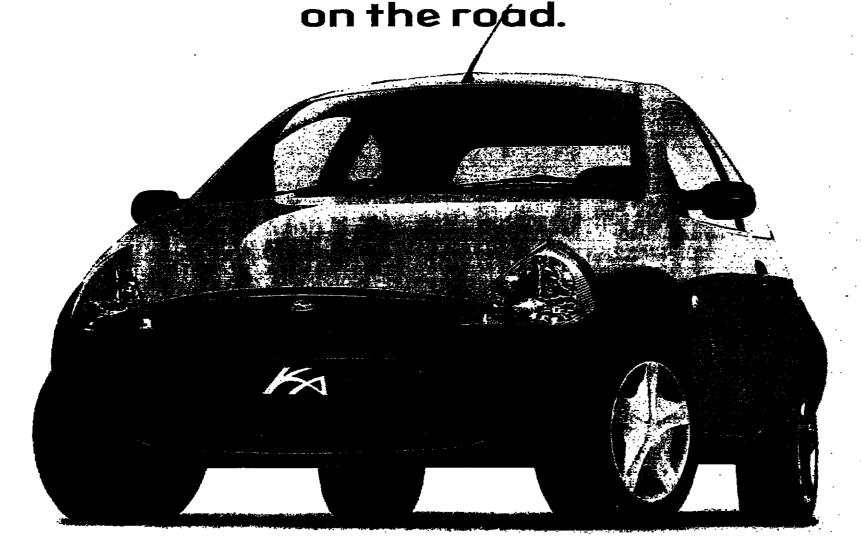
In the heart of his would-be seat, Mr Patel is busy telling a white woman that "your concerns are my concerns".

To a group of older Gujurati women at a bus stop he is explaining – in outraged Gujurati - how young Australians manage to enter Britain because their grandparents were born

Punters, tired of heing promised much and delivered little, warmed to Mr Patel's pitch. "I am not voting for Labour anymore. I did so because my father voted Labour and so did my uncle," says a Bengali shopkeeper on the Stratford Road.

"But nothing seems to change around here, so I do not

get into the



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Prescott under fire from party faithful

Colin Brown Chief Political Correspondent

Disaffected Labour supporters yesterday protested to John Prescott that Labour's campaign was focused too much on the concerns of middle-class former Tory voters instead of traditional Labour party values for protecting the poor and disad-

The deputy Labour Party leader robustly defended his party's election strategy on BBC Election Call with Peter Sissons, but Mr Prescott is expected to relay their concerns to the campaign team led by Gordon Brown at Millbank Towers, the

party election headquarters. Voter concern at Labour's failure to campaign more on its positive policies for improving public services, and the lack of passion in Labour's campaign has become an issue on the doorsteps, and was recorded by Steve Richards, the commentator, in this week's New Statesman, who concludes that it will not stop Labour win-

ning a big Commons majority. Peter Cherry, from Lincoln, said he had resigned from the party last week because Labour had accepted Tory tax rates and spending levels, while the Lib-eral Democrats were proposing an extra lp on tax to improve ed-ucation. The Liberals are coming up with the right taxes.
They are going to put a 50p
threshold on [top rate]. That is
what you should be doing."
Anne Booth, from Rochester,
said she had become a Labour.

said she had become a Labour Party member within the past six months, but was "terribly disappointed" with the camp it was running as it failed to focus on the homeless, asylumseekers who are held in a local jail, and children in poverty.

Under fire from the callers, Mr Prescott was challenged by Mr Sissons: "As an old Labour man, how do you feel about these calls for more help from pensioners, doctors, from teachers? They are all unhappy about the level of resources pledges – if any have been pledged at all." Mr Prescott said Labour

would be improving things for health, pensioners, crime and education by a different order of priorities. "But we have one very real problem. We do not know what the extent of the crisis in the public finances is ... Their [the Tories'] projections of the borrowing requirements have always been £10bn-£15bn out. You can't accept their figures . I don't believe anything this Government says. We have to be realistic and practical.

"Its not an easy decision, but I tell you what we are not going to do - we are not going to hang our chest and say we are socialists and all this has got to be done. The people don't believe it. We have lost four elections because they [the voters] want to see a Labour government that is realistic, knows what its priorities are, and where its money is coming from.



ive years on, voter who is still furning

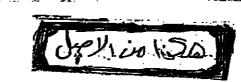
One of Mr Prescott's inquisitors was Joyce Elliott from Hereford - a name which rang Labour alarm bells, because she rattled Tony Blair on the subject of the minimum wage on the same programme in 1992.

writes John Rentoul. Five years on, she was still furning that a minimum wage would force her to make redundancies at her nursery, only this time Labour haven't had the guts to set out what it would be"

She then turned her attack unexpectedly to what became a familiar refrain on the programme esterday, that "you have prostituted yourselves to Tory policies" and abandoned everything that people could

She described herse as a socialist from Jarrow, but refused to say how she would vote. When she spoke to The independent later she said she "couldn't stand" Mr Blair five years ago, when he was Labour's employment spokesman, She had warmed to him, but recently had been put off because "he just will not answer a question they should have a chameleon for their mascot not a buildog",

She admitted that as a 64-year-old woman. with socialist principles, running a business, I don't know who to vote for. I might vote for Arthur Scargill's Socialist abour Party, but we haven't got one of those here ... I might end up voting for the



TURDAY IN TURIL

stack perspective: Palling values in Birmingham with a bour have taken

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STHE AND THE STATE OF

Benjamin Netanyahu with his wife Sarah, and President Ezer Weizman (right) at the funeral in Jerusalem yesterday of the former Israeli president, Chaim Herzog Photograph: Nati Hamik/AP

Cabinet slow to back embattled Netanyahu

Patrick Cockburn Jerusalem

As Benjamin Netanyahu, the Israeli Prime Minister, waits to see if he will be put on trial there were signs yesterday that his support is fraying in his cabinet

and governing coalition.
On Sunday Mr Netanyahu will learn if the attorney general. Elyakim Rubinstein, and the state attorney, Edna Arbel, agree with the police recommendation that he should be indicted with three of his associates. The police alleged this week that the prime minister had helped criminal suspects to appoint their own candidate as Israel's chief prosecutor.

It is unlikely that Mr Ne-tanyahu himself will be indicted, the Israeli press said vesterday. but he is likely to be the target of a damning report on his be-haviour. The daily Yediot Ahanmot says the state attorney's

office is divided on the advisability of an indicument. It says that three senior officials are in favour and three are against. in-

chiding the state attorney berself.

If Mr Netanyahu is not indicted the decision will certainly he challenged in the High Court which could decide that the prime minister will be prosecuted. The weakness of the case against him is that it de-pends on the evidence of Dan of Arych Deri, the leader of the religious party Shas, who is on trial for corruption. Mr Deri is accused of seeking the appointment of Roni Bar-On, an obscure party loyalist, as attor-ncy general in order to influence

the outcome of his trial. Mr Netanyahu faces two political dangers, even if he is not indicted. Members of his cabinet have been slow to come to his defence and their efforts sound a little grudging. Many are

old rivals of the prime minister. Dan Meridor, the Finance Minister, is reported to have said that it is hard to believe Mr Ne-

tanyahu will be wholly cleared. Two of the parties forming the government coalition might withdraw support. The Third Way, a splinter group from the Labour party with four seats in the 120-seat Knesset, is restive. Yehuda Harel, one of its leaders, said: "If it becomes clear that there are serious impropricties so far as democracy and the public are concerned, then we won't be able to support the

elections." Natun Sharanksy, the leader of the Russian immigrants' party with seven seats, is on bad terms with the prime minister. once a close friend. When the scandal broke in January he said that "if only 10 per cent of the allegations" turned out to be true the government should

government and will call for ear-

fall. He claims that in cabinet he voted for Mr Bar-On "because I trusted Netanyahu, and he betrayed me".

Mr Netanyahu continues to insist that he did nothing wrong. His tactic is to portray the police investigation as politically inspired. "At the heart of this matter is a political campaign." said Dan Naveh, the cabinet secretary. "The public in Israel wanted (this) government, and new there is an assault trying to

This attack on the investigators is unlikely to do Mr Ne-tanyahu much good. An opinion poll in *Yediot Aharan*of shows that 52 per cent of Israelis believe the police behaved professionally and honestly. A quarter of those asked thought the prime minister should resign now, 20 per cent that he should resign if indicted and 52 per cent only if

15-12 there has been be distinguish and have been a think they will be my one Missing plane cott has no link with Oklahoma bomb' r fire

Mary Dejevsky Washington

With rumours still flying thick and fast about the mysterious disappearance of an A-10 fight-er plane over the western Unit-ed States, no less a figure than the chairman of the armed forces chiefs of staff, General John Shalikashvili, has found it necessary to reject one of the

more bizarre theories advanced. The four-star general, the Pentagon's most senior military officer, said he had been following the search for the plane with interest, but did not see any connection between the missing plane and the bombing of the federal building in Oklahoma have enough information," he aid, "to lead me to believe that here's somehow a connection netween that incident in Oklatoma City ... and the disap-pearance of this airplane."

Gen Shalikashvili did, how-

wer say that security was being increased around the Lenver courthouse, where jury slection is in progress for the tral of Timothy McVeigh, the mn accused of masterminding the bombing. Today is the sec-ord anniversary of the attack. missing on 2 April after break-ing away from a routine trainwhich killed 168 people, and als the fourth anniversary of the Waco disaster, in which 80 people died when FBI officers tried to storm the Branch Davidan compound.

Intriguingly, the general also conimmed that additional security measures had been introduced at the North American Aerispace Defence Command

been "an indication" of a security threat to the installation.

General Shalikashvil?s denial was a response to speculation that the pilot of the missing A-10, Captain Craig Button, stole the plane - which was armed with four bombs - in order to stage some spectacular action for the Oklahoma City anniversary. This theory assumes that Capt Button may have sympathised with the illegal right-wing militia group with which Timothy McVeigh was supposedly involved - something that has been vigorously denied by those who knew him.

Theories such as this, and the even more far-fetched idea that Capt Button's A-10 might have been abducted by aliens, proliferate on the Internet. The problem for the military is that information about heightened security seems only to support the theories, and as yet the air force has been able to produce no compelling evidence to refute them.

Despite deploying the most sophisticated search techniques, including U2 spy planes and AWACS aircraft, it has failed to trace the plane, which went missing on 2 April after breaking exercisé over Arizona. Air force officials blame the thick snow in the region of Eagle, Colorado, where some say they heard a possible plane crash at the time the plane would have run out of fuel. The air force now says, however, that it has no "seismic indications" of a crash in the area and will call off the search until the snow melts if in Calorado because there had nothing is found by Tuesday.

significant shorts

Asylum-seeking Iraqi held at Heathrow

The Government says it is detaining an opponent of Iraqi Prejident Saddam Hussein at Heathrow airport while it confiders his application for political asylum in Britain. Masan al-Jabouri is leader of the Damascus-based Iraqi Honeland Party which wants to overthrow President Sadam. The party expressed concern over Mr al-Jabon's detention. He has been held by immigration authorities since he arrived at Heathrow on Monday from Syria.

Korean talks delay

North lorea delayed the resumption of talks with US and South Porean officials yesterday on expanded peace negotiaions that would include all three countries and China. We understand they are consulting with their capital and that is not inconsistent with diplomatic negotiations," a US State Department official said of the North Kdreans' delay. The official earlier expressed optimism hat North Korea would agree to the four-way talks first proposed a year ago.

Congress breaks impasse

The Congress Party in India removed a major stumbling block to forning a new government yesterday, telling the president it vill support a United Front government, butwith a new plime minister.

French doctors arrested

Paris police detained 15 striking junior hospital doctors yesterday after i demonstration against government plans in reduce health spending.

Palestinians forced to Libya

Armed Libyan policemen and soldiers forced more than 200 Palestinian refugees to leave their camp on the Libyan-Egyptian border and to go back to Libya, Egyptian security officials said. The Palestinians were deported to the camp in 1995 at the order of Libyan leader Muammar Guddafi.

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ALLIANCE & LEICENTER BUILDING BOCKTY YDDE HOME IS AT RISK IF YOU DO BUT KEEP UP REPAYMENTS ON A MORTGAGE OR OTHER LOAN SECURED ON IT.

Sun king of Sin City rises above bribery charge

Mary Braid Johannesburg

Sol Kerzner, the multi-millionaire who laid the foundations of his international casino empire in apartheid South Africa's reviled black homelands, is at the centre of a political storm after bribery charges against him were dropped.

For Mr Kerzner, 61, who seemed to suggest last month that he was just too rich to face prosecution, the decision by Christo Nel, attorney general for Transkei, to drop his decadelong campaign to bring Mr Kerzner to court is a vindication

of his innocence. But others claim that political pressure has helped to free Mr Kerzner of allegations that in 1986 he gave a ruler of the Transkei - one of the nine "independent" homelands in which blacks were condemned to live under apartheid – a bribe of 2m rand (£286,000) to secure exclusive gambling

Last vear. Bantu Holomisa. a former ANC minister and one-time favourite son of President Nelson Mandela, was expelled from the ANC after repeating allegations that Stel- United Kingdom. Nor did he

la Sigcau, the public enterprises minister, had received a cut of Mr Kerzner's alleged bribe.

ing that senior ANC members - including Thabo Mbeki, the deputy president - had accepted favours from Mr Kerzner. and, in 1994, that the magnate donation to the ANC, along with a polite request that the criminal charges against him be

After initial ANC denials, President Mandela admitted that he personally received the donation from Mr Kerzner. Oddly, the President said no one

else in the party knew about it. Mr Nel insists his decision is free of political pressure and is the result of new evidence which weakens the state's chance of a successful prosecution.

He has refused to elaborate. Mr Holomisa said yesterday that Mr Nel owed South Africans a full explanation.

*Let us hope he dropped the charges on his own and not through political pressure," he

A month ago Mr Nel failed in attempts to have Mr Kerzner extradited to South Africa from the



fare any better with David haunt those who were recipients Bloomberg, the former mayor of Sol Kerzuer's favours, he Bloomberg, the former mayor of Cape Town and an alleged ac- said.

Mr Holomisa, struggling to form a new opposition party since being cast out by the ANC, warned that those he had accused should not relax yet. "This case will continue to

The removal of the threat of legal action has come at a crucial time for Mr Kerzner, most famous for Sun City (Sin City to critics who accuse him of colonce cramped by international laborating with apartheid), the spectacular gambling complex, anti-apartheid action, has grown at a phenomenal rate. Mr

complete with synthetic beach and luxurious jungle-covered flost city, set in the midst of the arid poverty-ridden plains of the former homeland of Bophuthatswana. Since South Africa's transition, his empire,

Kerzner now has gambling complexes in the Bahamas, Mauritins and France. Last year he teamed up with a North American Indian reservation to open a £180m casino complex.

But attempts by the man once described as the Donald Trump of the Southern hemi-

stalled by the pending case in South Africa. The disappearance of charges almost certainly means full steam ahead. Mr Kerzner says he is very

cleared. But members of the public remain cynical about

once so National Party-friendly, has made chums with the ANC One caller to a local radio chat show yesterday quoted an old Xhosa proverb - a dog with a bone in its mouth does

High life: Sol Kerznes, the multimillionaire (left), who set up his business empire with Sun City (far left), a luxurious gambling complex with synthetic beach and jungle-covered 'lost city' - in the poverty-ridden black homelands of

Bophuthatswana in South Africa Photographs: All Action/Frank Spopner

Pictures

not bark. The caller said Sol Kerzner had ensured both the National Party and the ANC got

YOU'RE LOOKING AT the Hanging Rock, formed by over a million years of erosion, deep in the heart o

New Mexico. Around here it's the most breathtaking suspension you'll ever see. Or it was until the Jeep Grand Cheroke:

Limited came along. Its sophisticated quadra coil suspension beats any sedimentary glyptolith hands down. Add to that

the 8 way power adjustable soft leather seats, automatic temperature control and a 6 speaker audio system (for rock fans)

Austria vows to repel alien Balkan tide

Imre Karacs Lindau

If it is true, as some Germans insist, that the Balkans begin in Austria, then this tiny Bavarian town in the foothills of the Alps marks the boundary between two worlds; the point where index-linked pensions

fade into pyramid schemes. In purely geographical terms, the Balkans are a good 400 miles down the road. In some respects. Lindau is the gateway to the East. Once the lorries packed with drugs or illegal immigrants trundle past its check-point, nobody can stop them from disgorging their contents into the streets of Western

The Bavarian border guards the southern flank of "Schengen country", a seamless land mass

᠖ If Italy were in Schengen, the Albanians would have an open road to Hamburg 9

of seven states which peters out at the Atlantic coast.

The Germans used to moan about the burden of keeping the eastern hordes at bay, but now they are terrified of handing over control. On 27 October Austria, Greece and Italy are to become full members of the Schengen club, inheriting the task of stemming the flow of undesirable goods and people.

The lorries will make their last pit stop hundreds of miles east and south, along Austria's horder with the Czech Republie, Slovakia, Hungary and Slovenia. Lindau will become a deserted chicane.

The Germans, having watched their Austrian colleagues closely, are not sure that's such a good idea. They point out that while it takes three years to teach a German border guard how to "sniff out" heroin, the Austrians get only a few days' training before being thrown in at the deep end.

According to the German press, the Austrian border is like Swiss cheese. Anecdotes, or maybe urban myths, are circulating in Bavaria about Austrian hairdressers being hastily set to remain the end of the drafted in to man the barriers.

The Independent spotted no scissors at Lindau, only an Austrian guard who seemed too young to be entrusted with any thing other than a shampoo.

We are fully trained officers," says Peter Durdak of the Bavarian border police. "We have decades of experience which the Austrians do not have." To put it bluntly, Austria is "not up to Schengen standards". That's not to say that the Austrians are shambolic. Given time, say three years, their people might become ucarly as "effective and efficient" as the

Bavarian officers.

They are trying very hard.
Last month, Bavarian guards
caught within the space of three days two lorries packed with illegal immigrants: 50 Kurds in one consignment and 40 Koso-vo Albanians in the other. Both had been checked and waved through by the Austrians.

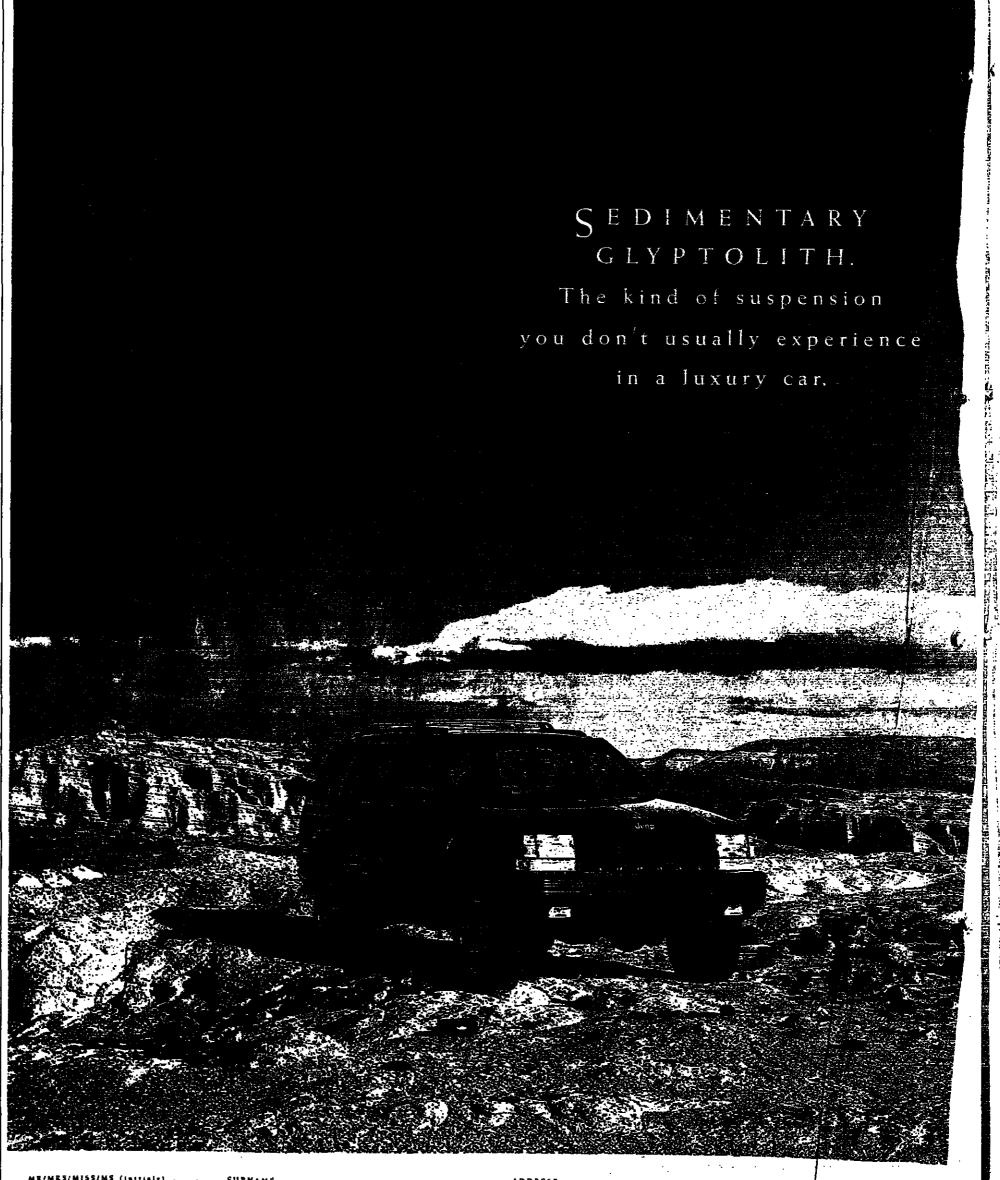
Vienna reacted to that embarrassment by supplying its troops with devices which try to detect an illicit human cargo through its carbon dioxide emission around the vehicle. They have not caught anybody yet, but their thorough searches have resulted in 12-hour queues at the border.

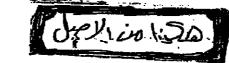
There is, understandably, not much love lost between the two forces as the Bavarians step up their verbal assault on their demoralised cousins. "It's not that we want to play the teacher and tell our neighbours what to do," says Michael | Ziegler of the Bavarian Interi-or Ministry. "But Austria has no specific border force, and it takes time to set one up.

Munich's solution, likely to he vigorously backed by the German government at the next Schengen meeting in Brussels, is to postpone the handover until the year 2000. Austria would be fobbed off with control over the Vienna-Munich air corridor in the interim.

As for the credentials of the other two applicants, the prospect of Greece controlling Asian traffic does not hear thinking about, and Italy is equally dubious.

"If Italy were in Schengen, the Albanians who have been landing in Brindisi in recent weeks would have an open road to Munich or Hamburg," Mr Ziegler points out, "The question must be asked: 'Can Italy cope with the one million illegal immigrants already living there?" In the absence of a reassuring answer. Lindau looks Schengen road for some time.





Mobutu's dying city plays out a last sick joke

Kinshasa - Sex tourists go to Thailand, adventurers head for the wilderness, and ghouls book tours of Bosnia. But for those who want to cultivate their cynicism at the tired end of the millennium, Kinshasa should be holiday destination number one. Looted, run-down, impoverished, stinking, isolated and soon to be besieged, it is becoming the world capital of the jaded, where the average citizen would make a Raymond Chandler private eye seem like a wide-eyed Scout.

The Kinshasans know their government, headed by the Great Redeemer", President Mobutu Sese Seko, has looted billions of dollars from the country in the past 32 years.

Ed O'Loughlin sees the regime fabricate a paroxysm of morality

vancing from the east are winning the war largely with weapons bought or captured from Mr Mobutu's army.
Yet the announcement this

week that Mr Mobutu's cabinet wants to try a former prime minister. Kengo wa Dondo, for embezzlement and treason has raised few eyebrows. To para-phrase a line from the film Apocalypse Now, charging a Zairean politician with fraud is like handing out speeding tickets at the Monaco Grand Prix.

According to Mr Kin-kirk Mulumba, the new Information Minister, Mr Kengo disappeared with \$1m (£625,000) of government cash three weeks after being sacked. Mr Mulumba said he was also suspected of sabotaging the war against Laurent Kabila's rebels. The government was investigating further, and an international warrant night soon be issued for Mr Kengo's arrest.

It would surprise nobody in Kinshasa if Mr Kengo had helped himself to an honorarium before slipping across the Congo River to Brazzaville. The US State Department calculated eight years ago that Mr Mobutu had taken \$5bn (£3.1bn) from Zaire's substantial mineral wealth, a sum equal to the then national debt. But it does surprise people that, after years of unchecked state banditry, a senior politician should be called to account for such a trifling sum.

It seems that the more hopelessly paralysed and morally bankrupt the Zairean government becomes, the more stridently it talks of human rights, good governance and military. victory. Last week, for instance, the newly appointed military Prime Minister, Lukulia Bolongo, marked the beginning of his term by promising to hold elections within a few months. after the country was pacified. Zaire would not be the first country to overcome significant early defeats and go o to find victory, he said. "Wherever our valiant soldiers have decided to engage in combat the enemy has been defeated," he said. "We remain an effective army, with our human notential intact and a worth that has already been proven across Africa, in Nigeria, Chad, Burundi and Rwanda.'

Yet in Kinshasa most people seem to believe the main threat comes not from the rebels but the government army. Foreign observers say deserters and broken army units are drifting back towards the capital from the east, looting and vandalising. Stragglers have been ar-riving in the city since the war began six months ago. Until now, they have been easily picked up by Mr Mobutu's relatively well-ordered praetorian guard. But this could change when whole units start arriving on the edge of town."

Nobody knows what will happen next: Mr Mobutu could flee tomorrow; there could be a coup or a ceasefire; things might drift on until the first rebel mortar bomb lands at the airport. weeks or months from now. But everybody fears there will be one last orgy of looting and van-dalism before the old kleptocratic Zaire gives up the ghost. One old Zaire hand, a black

American businessman, took it upon himself to enlighten jour-



Kabila: Warned foreigners to get out of Kinshasa

6 When a FAZ soldier puts his foot down next to yours he don't want to dance. He's shopping for shoes 9

They appreciate the rebels ad- nalists staying in the city-centre Memling hotel. Had we noticed, he said, the number of off-duty FAZ [government] soldiers

hanging about outside?
"When a FAZ puts his foot down next to yours he don't want to dance," he said. "He's shopping for shoes." Newspapers report that many people have moved out of areas neighbouring military camps, the flashpoint for previous outbreaks of looting in 1991 and 1993. The pillaging was sparked off by Mr Mobutu's attempts to pay his soldiers with new ban-knotes that were not accepted on the street.

An African diplomat said most soldiers in Kinshasa were paid last month, albeit only \$2 and a hag of rice for an enlisted government soldier. But another pay day looms next week. If the government does not have the money, or attempts to use new banknotes once again, the pillaging could resume.

This time French troops waiting across the Congo in Brazzaville have been joined by contingents from the US. Britain and Belgium, on standby to pull out their nationals. Britain and the US have

ima Karaha, Zaire's rebel foreign minister, said yesterday until President Mobutu Sese Seko relinquished power. "We don't want any suspen-

sion of bostilities. We want the end of the war and that can only come about if the man who brought the war is kicked out. When Mobutu leaves, that will be the end of the war." he said. Karaha said speculation that pending negotiations in South

Africa would deal with some form of transitional powersharing was incorrect. "What we are negotiating is the mode of departure of Mobutu," be

around 400 expatriates in the Zairean capital.

Those who remain risk becoming pawns in the struggle between Mr Mobutu's dying regime and Mr Kabila's Alliance of Democratic Forces. Rebel broadcasts have warned foreigners to leave Kinshasa for their own safety - Mr Kabila has promised to take the city in

Mr Kabila has claimed Mr Mobutu is planning to murder many foreigners to provoke an international intervention in the capital, which would block the rebel advance.

Whatever the truth behind this claim, Mr Mobutu is suspected of orchestrating the 1991 and 1993 pillaging. By stopping the looting, which his soldiers had begun, he persuaded Western backers like France and Belgium that only he could hold Zaire together. Ill-disciplined, badly trained

and often unpaid, the army remains a law unto itself.

Two weeks ago, when a group of Western journalists tried to get to the southern city of Lubumbashi just before it fell, troops at the airport refused to recognise our expensive and painstakingly assembled collection of government credentials. We were held in isolation at the airport overnight.

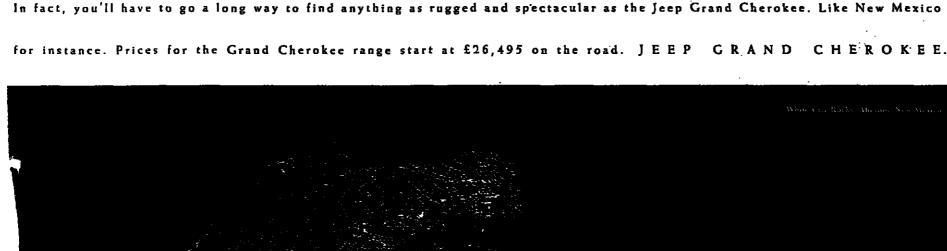
Drunk soldiers barged in and

out, demanding to know who we were and why we had come. A lieutenant, who seemed to be called Coco, left us in no doubt of his opinion of the Western press. "Speaking to you frankly," he said, "if it was left to me I would kill you all now and bury you where your bodies would never be found."

Coco was a talkative soul, and as the night wore on he expounded on the US-led, Anglo-Saxon, Jewish and Nilotic-Tutsi conspiracy to re-enslave Africa and bastardise the Bantu race by interfering with its womenfolk. He was particularly proud of his warrior ancestry and his record in the war against Mr Ka-bila. "I fought at Goma in November," he hissed cradling his dirty AK-47. "I fought at Bukavu, at Uvira and - lately -

at Kalemie." We wanted to ask him when, at that rate of progress, he thought he would reach Cape Town, but somehow it didn't seem like such a good idea. Coco left us in the end, and we took what sleep we could on the wooden benches and concrete floor of the airport lounge.

It was cold and uncomfortable. But, like the people of Kmshasa, at least we had the army to protect us.



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Slow boat sails from China to **Taiwan**

Stephen Vines Hong Kong

The tumultuous courtship between China and Taiwan moved from cold to warm yesterday, with the dispatch of the first ship in 48 years to sail directly from the Chinese mainland to the island of Taiwan.

China regards Taiwan as a renegade province, while the government of Taiwan clings to the notion that it is the sole legitimate government of China. These rival claims have made normal relations between the two states almost impossible since the end of the Chinese civ-

None the less, the rhetoric belies the reality of growing ties be-tween the rival Chinas. The agreement to restore shipping links, if only for transporting goods, marks an important stage

in developing bilateral ties. The initiative for the resumption of the shipping route came from the Taiwan government in May 1995. It has taken almost two years for agreement to reach fruition. In the meantime the Taiwan Strait, which separates the two countries. was transformed into a flashpoint for war as China launched a series of aggressive missile tests in an apparent attempt to influence the outcome of Taiwan's first ever democratic presidential election in 1995.

The tension between the states was as bad as it has been at any time since the early 1970s. But the two governments have remained committed to a pragmatic establishment of trading and other ties. The business relationship between the two states has led to the establishment of investments in China by an estimated 30,000 Taiwanese companies, pouring some \$30bn (£18.5bn) into the Chinese mainland.

There have also been visits by officials on both sides of the Taiwan Strait and an official body has been established to improve cross-straits relations.

While economic relations flourish. China wages a relentless war to maintain Taiwan's diplomatic isolation and prevents the island's government from establishing any kind of substantive bilateral relationships with other nations.

Taiwan, for its part, is not averse to engaging in activity which provokes China. Last month, Taiwan's President Lee Teng Hui met the Dalai Lama, Tiber's exiled spiritual leader. The Chinese Government is extremely sensitive about matters related to Tibet and regards the Dalai Lama as one of its most implacable foes.

China suspects President Lee is edging Taiwan away from Chinese reunification, a view supported by dissident elements who have left the ruling party to join the New Party, which strongly advocates the reunification of Taiwan and China.

There is a long way to go be-fore this goal can be achieved. More likely in the short term are further moves to forge links between the two states. A direct air route, for example, is under discussion. There are also plans for co-operation in protecting the investments of Taiwanese companies in China.

The return of Hong Kong to Chinese rule in July presents opportunities and challenges for Taiwan and China. As matters stand, Hong Kong serves as a neutral transit point between the two states, but cannot remain so. Some Taiwanese institutions will withdraw from Hong Kong, but others will remain, representing the first time that quasi-official Taiwan government bodies have been represented on Chinese soil.



Faithful family: An Indonesian woman breaks from praying outside a mosque in Jakarta on the feast of Eid al Adha yesterday to tend her crying daughter

Photograph: Reuters High life shared with lowland neighbours

I first visited Paris when I was 14 years old with my Belgian godmother. She had been excited about the trip for days. France is the "big sister of Belgium", she repeated over and over, a wonderful, richly, cultured country. To my teenage amusement, she spent most of our short stay in a fury and a depression at the rudeness of the Parisians, which she attributed to her Belgian accent.

Parisians, of course, need no excuse to be rude. They are quite contentedly and naturally rude to one another. But it remains true that a Belgian visiting France needs a thick skin and a sense of humour, which fortunately many Belgians have. Four-wheeled Belgian visitors say that, as they drive through Paris, passers-by point at their tell-tale red and white number plate and dou-

ble up with laughter.
The "histoire belge" is a staple of French wit, just as Irish jokes are thought to be furny by some in Britain. The Belgian joke typically presents the northern neighbours as crudely provincial, slow or surreally dotty. Why are Sabena pilots refusing to land at Charles de Gaulle airport? Because the runways are only 100 metres long but two kilometres wide. Such jokes still tend to define most

French people's view of Belgium, particularly those who have never been near their country's northern frontier. As someone proud to be a half-Belgian, the nature of the Franco-Belgian relationship has been in my thoughts recently. But not just my thoughts. French and Belgian relations are usually as uneventful as the relationship between Bedfordshire and Northamp-

In recent weeks, however, there has been a series of diplo-economic spats between the two countries. Renault's decision to close, without warning, a factory near Brussels caused outrage in Belgium (and, to be fair, widespread sympathy for Belgium in France). The Belgian police complain that France refuses to take seriously a series of cross-border investigations, including an extradition request for the French businessman, Serge Dassault. Beyond that, there has been serious talk in the Belgian and French press, and by serious French and Belgian politicians, of Wallonia rejoining France if the Flemish part of the country continues its pell-mell course to-

wards independence. This is no longer the fantasy it might have seemed a few years ago.

More positively, one of the most interesting cultural events in Paris at the moment is an exhibition at the Grand Palais, off the Champs Elysées, enti-tled Paris-Bruxelles, Bruxelles-Paris 1848-1914. The exhibition traces the rich and confused cultural cross-currents - artistic, literary, musical and architectural - which flowed between the two cities in the 60 or so years after railways brought them within a few hours of one another.

French painters, such as Courbet and Manet, were encouraged, exhibited, imitated and - most importantly - bought in Belgium while they were still execrated in France. In the mid-century, practically the whole équipe nationale of French literature - Victor Hugo, Charles Baudelaire, Paul Verlaine, Arthur Rimbaud, Stephane Mallarmé -spent long periods in Brussels escaping

political persecution or starvation.

It was in Brussels that Hugo wrote and published Les Misérables. It was in and published Les Misérables. It was in Belgiam painter Théo Van Rys-Belgiam that the poet Verlaine shot and selberghe, looks ominously like a turn

wounded the poet Rimbaud and spent two years in jail. Baudelaire scratched a kind of living by giving readings in Belgium when no one would reward him in France. He remained rather poor, however and, envious of the sometimes crassly deployed wealth of the Brussels bourgeoisie, turned vi-ciously anti-Belgian. To this day, some Belgians blame him for initiating their unfortunate image in France. 'Qu'il avance ou qu'il recule, le belge est tou-jours ridicule (Going forwards or backwards, a Belgian is always ridiculous)"

wrote the ungrateful poet. By the fin de siècle, the artistic traffic was two way. Art Nouveau began in Brussels and flourished in Paris. The Belgian poets Emile Verhaeren and Maurice Maeterlinck were lionised and spent long periods in France. Maeter-linck's Pelléas et Mélisande was turned into an opera by Debussy. Like Georges Simenon, Tintin, Jacques Brel and Johnny Hallyday after him. Maeterlinck became so popular that the French forgot he was not French. The emblematic painting in the ex-

hibition is one showing Verhaeren and Maeterlinck sitting with André Gide and other French writers. The composition.

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of the century prototype for the book-ish chat-shows which would come to haunt French late night television. The show should be compulsory

viewing for any half-way cultured Prench person who ever cracked an anti-Belgian joke. But it also carries an important, rather tragic, message for those contemporary Begians who seem bent on dissolving their country. Over and over again, it is apparent that what attracted the French artistic elite to Brussels, apart from the cash, was the richness, the oddness, the freshness, of its dual Flemish-French cultural heritage. It is just this heritage which is now being bureaucratically, dogmatically and pedantically compartmentalised by the present generation of politicians.

Next week we are receiving a state visit from my Belgian godmother, who will be 90 later this year. She despuirs of contemporary Belgium but remains a committed Francophile. She is looking forward to coming, she says, because France is "the big sister of Belgium, a wonderful, richly, cultured country etc etc". Her accent remains a give-away but least she is coming by the TGV high-speed train and will not have a red and white numberplate.

John Lichfield

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Russian bogey turns into gold mine for Finns

Six years ago, when Communism was collapsing in the former Soviet Union and ordinary Russians began to visit Finland in significant numbers, the shop signs in a town like Lappean ranta sent out an unmistakable message. "Only one Russian at a time in this shop."

These days, the Finnish sus-picion that theft is the chief purpose behind Russian tourism has long since passed. Businessmen and shopkeepers in Lappeenranta, which lies in south-east Finland, less than 15 miles from the Russian frontier, now welcome Russians with

Store owners have started to hire Russian-speaking sales as-sistants, and shop windows display the sign "Service in Russian here" for the benefit of the thousands of Russians who arrive every week. The phrase "the Russians are coming", which used to strike a particularly sensitive chord in a country that was attacked twice by Stalin's Soviet Union in the Second World War, now has almost entirely positive connotations.

Take Tom Hultin, a Finnish business consultant who went to work in Switzerland in 1991 but moved back to Lappeenranta in 1994. "When I came back, my plan was just to do business with Western companies, but I quickly saw that there were other opportunities," he said.

"The situation here is just excellent. The streets are crowded with Russians at the moment. It's cheaper for them to buy here than in St Petersburg. There are shop owners who would much rather sell to Russians than to me because the Russians don't ask for a dis-

Customs officers on the snowy, tree-lined, Finnish-Russ-

John Lichfill

Yet

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#8 E. ...

Trading ties are now part of Russia and lies less than an hour's drive from now booming between two old foes, writes

Tony Barber in

Lappeenranta

Russians, "In 1990, at this border crossing alone, we had a total of 200,000 people going in one direction or the other. Last vear it was 1.16 million," said Esa Vuorinen, an inspector at the border checkpoint of

For all the boom in Russian business and tourism, Fines in

6 Shop owners would much rather sell to Russians

because they don't ask for a discount 9

Lappeenranta have memories of different times. The town, which was founded in 1649 by Queen Christina of Sweden, fell into Russian hands in the 18th century. The Tsars left their mark by building a military fortress and a couple of Orthodox churches, whose onion domes stand in sharp contrast to the simple Nortic architec-

ture around them. Then there was the Winter War, a dark and searing episode ian frontier confirm that there in the Finnish memory. Vyborg, is more human contact than a city which was then the third



Lappeemanta, was annexed to "Soviet Karelia" as a result of the wars in 1939-40 (the Winter War) and in 1944 that broke out as a result of Stalin's hostility to Finland.

About half a million people, or more than one in 10 of all Finns, were evacuated from the Vyborg area before the Soviet assaults. The loss of Vyborg was a national tragedy, but one that Finns carefully avoided complaining about in the days when a tyrannical Communist monster continued to loom on the eastern border. It is not surprising, then, that Vyborg still matters to

rather than in a revanchist way.
One elderly couple, who had owned a property in Vyborg be-fore 1939, visited it recently after a 50-year gap and were deeply saddened at the way its post-war Russian occupiers had treated their home. "Shit on the walls, a horrible, horrible smell everywhere, and no sign that anybody had done anything in decades to make the place look

many Finns, even if they think

about the lost city in a wistful

nice," was their verdict. Nevertheless, business with Russia must go on. It is, in some ways, the only and the best option facing the Finns. A company such as Finreila OY, which is making boilers to heat buildings in Russian cities, has nothing but good things to say about

"It is an enormous market. But you must have a lot of patience, and you have to be the friend of the Russian customers before it will all work," said Hannu Janhunen, an executive with Finreila, which is rapidly expanding in Russia in partnership with a British company, Hamsworthy Combustion Engineering. Like other Westerners, the

Finns have plenty of terrifying experiences to recount when they talk about doing business in the new free-market Russia. One Finnish businessman was kidnapped in the Siberian city of Irlantsk, and his family had to pay a ransom of \$130,000 (£80,000) to get him back.

However, with their centuries-old knowledge of the Russian character, the Firms believe trade with Russia can only get better. Veli Sundback, executive vice-president with the Helsinki-based Nokia company, said: "Twe been following events since the collapse of the Soviet Union, and I think an improvement has taken place."



Brazilian peasants march for land

- Landless peasants marched into the Brazilian capital to the cheers of more than 25,000 demonstrators in the biggest protest faced by President Fernando Henrique Cardoso.

The demonstrators opposed to Mr Cardoso's pro-market reforms braved a rainstorm to cheer the 1,500 peasants of the Landless Movement (MST) as they filed into Brasilia's massive Ministries Esplanade after a 750-mile march to demand land and justice for colleagues who have lost their lives.

"Comrades, do not give in. We can still dream of a better future." MST leader Joso Pedro Stedile urged protesters waving red flags as left-wing in-

and liberal Catholic bishops jostled for space behind him.

The MST has emerged as a new left-wing force in Brazil that has captured the imagination of the public with its highprofile tactic of invading and

cultivating unused farmland. Mr Stedile said the MST would defy calls from the gov-

erument to give up the occupa-tions which can lead to violence. "There will be more and more occupations. We don't expect the government to carry out proper land reform pro-

ty," Mr Stedile said. Brazil has one of the world's worst land-distribution ratios, with about half its arable land the first anniversary of the

in the hands of 2 per cent of killing by police of 19 peasants landowners.

The struggle for land ownership is also one of the main factors behind Brazil's soaring levels of violence. More than took office in January 1995.

Thursday's protest marked

demanding land. The massacre heaped criticism from international rights groups on Brazil and spurred Mr Cardoso to declare land reform a priority.

pictures clearly showing police

Citizen Caine is just the boyo to revive Bolshevism

Moscow - British politics may have sunk into quibbling over different shades of grey.

The once revolutionary Vanessa Redgrave, as reported on page one, may now be declaring her loyalty to the Liberal Democrats. But Britain can still nurture the occasional pioneering radical.

Kevin Caine, a 31-year-old from north Wales, has embarked on a task more ambitious than anything which the suits jostling for a seat in Westminster have to offer: he's trying to convert Russia back to

Most weekends Mr Caine is to be found beneath the out**Phil Reeves** on a Welsh radical who is harking back to the bad old past

stretched arm of a statue of Lenin in the main square of Yekaterinburg, an industrial sprawi on the edge of the Ural mountains where the winter temperatures can drop to -30 C.

The former mechanic, a bearded figure in a leather peaked cap, hawks copies of The Bolshevik newspaper and cas-settes of rousing North Korean music to passing Russians in the hope that they will eventually turn back the clock to 1917.

Past Imperfect: A scene from the film Reds, with Warren Seatty playing John Reed,

who could be a role model for Kevin Caine

is Boris Yeltsin's home town. It seems that Citizen Caine, son of an army officer, who grew up in a 16-room mansion, is not

deterred. Rarely does a Communist march take place in which he is not seen striding along beneath the sea of red banners, calling for the payment of overdue wages and pensions, and an end to the exploitation of the work-

Like a latter-day John Reed He has chosen some of the —the Communist author of Ten toughest turf in Russia: the city Days that Shook the World,

played by Warren Beatty in the film Reds — Mr Caine has penned some patriotic songs which he sings to the accompaniment of his synthesiser, along with stirring refrains including: "Down with Fascism!

I want to live". The story of his arrival in Russia is as romantic as his mission is far-fetched.

He was travelling through Russia a few years ago when he met a Russian woman on a

They fell in love and married and he decided to stay. As free-market reforms unfolded - and, with them, crime

and economic collapse - he be-

came increasingly convinced

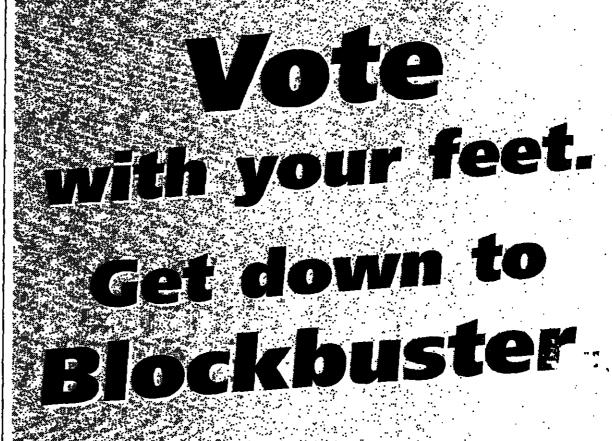
that the red flag should be hoisted again over Russia. He is no fan of the capitalist Western press, but his activities were reported this week by the newspaper Komsomolskaya Pravda, whose account was confirmed in detail to the Independent by his Russian wife and political soulmate,

Valentina. Such is the curiosity about his decision to swap the comforts of the West for the wilds of Russia that two years ago a Russian documentary-maker chose him as the subject of a prizewinning film, The head of the house, or Kevin Caine in the country of Bolsheviks.

"At home in England, we only have to press a button to warm up our homes," he declared. No longer. In his new home lown outside Yekaterinburg, he spends hours chopping logs for the stove in his wooden cot-

It is unclear if he feels that the return of Communism would spare him the daily labour.

tage and collecting water from



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Professor Martin Schwarzschild

Martin Schwarzschild, eminent theoretical and observational astronomer, was a world leader in the theory of stellar structure and evolution and of galactic

structure. Besides writing other important papers on theoretical and observational astronomy, he pioneered the use of space telescopes to obtain sharp photographs from above the Earth's fluctuating atmosphere. His versatility, transparent personal integrity, enthusiasm for ideas and skill in communication made him a very effective advisor on scientific matters, both national and international. He was a worthy son to Karl Schwarzschild, a father he hardly remembered.

Schwarzschild's early life in some ways typified that of many other German citizens of Jew-ish stock. His father's family had for centuries lived in the Frankfurt Judengasse. Following emancipation in the 19th century, they entered with enthusiasm into Germany's economic, intellectual and cultural life.

man of genius, who can fairly be ment. But his graduation in described as the father of astrophysics: in just 20-odd years of active research, he introduced many fundamental ideas and methods now commonplace tle. Both Martin Schwarzschild among astronomers. But come 1914, although past 40, and in spite of his distaste for militarism, as a German Jew he felt morally obliged to volunteer, following the German army first into Belgium with a scientific unit, and subsequently onto the Eastern Front. In 1916 he contracted a painful skin disease which killed him, but not before he had written his last scientific papers, including one on ballistics, and the two that are probably his most famous, constructing exact solutions of Ein- war he returned at first to his stein's general relativistic field equations.

The young Martin's faint recollections of his father, and the high regard with which his memory was held both in his childhood home at Göttingen and in the astronomical world

Karl Schwarzschild was a tion rather than an impediphysics and astronomy coincided with the political triumph of the Nazis, for whom his father's patriotism counted for litand his elder sister Agathe (subsequently Professor of Classics at Dunedin in New Zealand) were forced into exile. His younger brother, who re-mained with their "Aryan" mother in Gottingen, was ultimately driven to suicide.

After a year as Research Fellow at Oslo and a brief visit to Britain, Schwarzschild emigrated to the United States in 1937, becoming a citizen in 1942, and serving as a heutenant with army intelligence. After the position as Assistant Professor at Columbia University's Rutherford Observatory. It showed commendable farsightedness on the part of Princeton that when appointing Lyman Spitzer as Professor of Astronomy and successor to H.N. Russell as Director of the

Observatory, they agreed to Spitzer's request that Schwarz-schild also be appointed. Their fields of work both overlapped and complemented each other; together, they built up a strong graduate school in theoretical and observational astronomy.

Schwarzschild is probably

best known for his seminal con-

tributions to our understanding of stellar structure and evolution. He was quick to recognise the power of the newly developed electronic computers to deal with the rather intractable mathematics, and in particular to incorporate the complicated details of the input physics. The culmination of a long series of studies was a landmark paper written jointly with Fred Hoyle, "On the Evolution of Type 2 Stars", published in 1955, which showed convincingly how the evolution due to nuclear pro-cessing of initially homogeneous stars would lead naturally to the



would not be satisfied with just the output from the computer: he would always want to understand the reasons for numerical predictions in qualitative physical terms. His monograph Structure and Evolution of the Stars (1958) has been a standard text for generations of students of all ages.

ture, especially of elliptical galaxies. His skilled use of the computer for the construction of the orbits of individual stars, and the final use of these orbits for synthesizing the selfconsistent gravitational field, tuggered an explosion of activity in this area. His other theoretical work includes a seminal paper on the heating of the solar corona by shock waves emanating from the turbulent convection zone just below the surface, and a pioneering paper with Martin Kruskal on the instabilities that bedevil laboratory plasmas, for example in potential thermonuclear devices.

differences in chemical composition between respectively red giant sequence and the associated short-period pulsating stars, as observed in the globular clusters. But Schwarzschild stars, as observed in the globular clusters. But Schwarzschild stars, as observed in the globular clusters. But Schwarzschild stars are combination of high- and low-velocity dwarf which is set to revolutionise optical astronomy.

It is probably no coincidence that Martin Schwarzschild's April 1997.

not to rigid rotation but rather to a constant rotational velocity, subsequently confirmed by the radio astronomers as omnipresent in disc-like galaxies, such as our own Milky Way.
However, Schwarzschild's
major contribution to observa-

tional astronomy was probably through his pioneering use of space telescopes for precise strument to obtain sharp photographs of the solar surface. Schwarzschild also made The subsequent "Stratoscope many important contributions II" three-foot telescope gave similar first-of-a-kind results to observational astronomy. To-gether with his wife Barbara, he drew attention to the striking were harbingers of the now fa-miliar Hubble Space Telescope, which is set to revolutionise op-

other main theoretical interest
-the dynamics of galactic structure, especially of elliptical
galaxies. His skilled use of the man Spitzer, his close colleague and friend for over half a century. Certainly, those many who have enjoyed and profited from the warm hospitality of Princeton University Observatory will feel that an era has truly come to an end.

Leon Mestel

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Unisters' children

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Martin Schwarzschild, asspace telescopes for precise imaging of the Sun, planets and stellar systems. His "Stratoscope I" 12-inch solar telescope, balloon-borne up to 80,000 feet, was the first instrument to obtain share plan. riarvara University Otiservatory 1937-40; Lecturer, Columbia University 1940-14, Assistant Professor 1944-7; Professor, Princeton University 1947-30, Higgins Professor of Astronomy 1950-79: Vice-President, Inter-national Astronomical Union 1964-70; Vice-President, Amer ican Astronomical Society 1967-69, President 1970-72: married

Roland Topor

Topor was the modern enfant terrible of French art and letters, a humorist whose very appearance, always bubbling over with sly merriment, made one laugh.

Like his six-year-younger fel-low-writer Arrabal, whom he much resembled, he was short and leprechaun-like, giving the impression of constant, untiring activity. Like Arrabal, he dabbled in films, produced art derived from Surrealism (the former ordered his art by telling a painter exactly what he wanted, while Topor was a trained artist), and could seldom be accused of good taste. Born in Paris in 1938, the son

of Polish Jewish refugees, he spent the war in Savoy and eventually studied at the Ecole des Beaux-Arts. His father had been a conventional painter of landscapes and the son's work is indistinguishable from his in style, but very different in subject matter. Topor's cartoons appeared in many newspapers. most notably Liberation. Among the films made from his work was Polanski's The Tenant (1976). His greatest success was as a

macabre cartoonist. He used his work to illustrate his novels, plays and other writings, produced many volumes of graphics, and exhibited his work widely in galleries both in France and abroad. His drawings in many ways resembled the



Topor: sty merriment

the similarly grim work of the Alsatian artist Tomi Ungerer. but the humour was always there in the absurd situations he depicted, many based on fantastical images of the deeper associations of sex and erotica, others on pictures that linked mankind to the world of worms and insects or reptiles. Although ebullient in public, it was known among his friends that he had black periods of extreme depression, and the bizarre fantasies that he drew and painted undoubtedly reflected a mind that brooded on death and

decay and the many germs and viruses that live in our bodies. His novels tackled the same themes, cruelty and metamorplots stretching the imagination to its limits.

His play Vinci avait raison ("Leonardo was Right") was a farcical comedy where a police-man and his wife invite a colleague and family to spend a weekend in their new house, where the lavatories are blocked. Piles of excrement emerge ali over the house and only the constipated visiting policeman escapes suspicion: the end of this unusual detective play confounds everyone, but at its Brussels premiere and at a public reading at the Arts Theatre Club in London in English, not many of the audience waited for the end.

Coprophagy is a frequent theme and religion a favourite target in much of his work. Giving offence came so naturally to Topor that he was almost unaware of the shocked reactions he was likely to get, as for instance from the series of dialogues, accompanied by drawings, examining all the possible uses of a baby, starting by nailing one to your front door.

His novels are misnamed, being mainly a string of incidents depicting unusual happenings or strange turns of events, often being little more than an invention that is easier to put into words than a picture. They include Four Roses for Lucienne, Joko's phosis being depicted in a mat- Anniversary (which appeared

scripts and a variety of small volumes, appealing to his considerable cult following.

Reactions to him would have been stronger in Britain, al-though volumes of both graphics and prose appeared here, but he never achieved the special reputation that he enjoyed in France, where the Surrealists had already blunted philistine and taste considerations. He will be regarded historically as a latterday Surrealist, with his reputation as an artist likely to outlive his fame as a writer. France has a tradition of minimalist writing - Max Jacob, André Breton, Aragon and Obaldia are only a few of the names that spring to mind - but there is no British tradition other than a few essay writers like Charles Lamb. In any case,

At the age of 59 Topor suffered a massive stroke and brain haemorrhage, having appeared until then in the best of health. In person he was generous and warm with a large body of friends, who, although they were aware of his black moods, never had to suffer

few modern European writers are read in Britain these days.

John Calder

Roland Topor, artist and writer: born Paris 7 January 1938, marter-of-fact, unemotional way, his in English), Le Locataire Chim-ried (three children); died Paris



Harry Ashley



Harry Ashley was a photographer and popular historian of Dorset as well as an authority on the dialect poet William

He discovered the beauty of Dorset in 1936, when he became a photographer on the Dorset County Chronicle. He liked to recall that an earlier contributor was Thomas Hardy. The young Ashley soon moved to the Echo in Bournemouth where, having opted to return after the Second World War, he became the much respected chief photographer serving a total of

Às an RAF Official War Photographer he provided

Britain with the first pictures of the fall of Mandalay and Singapore. He was twice shot down and when it was friendly fire he was out of the plane in seconds to photograph the downed aircraft.

Peacetime in Bournemouth was not dull. In 1946 he was the first on the scene in Branksome Dene Chine when police discovered by moonlight the mutilated body of the ex-Wren Doreen Marshall. She had been murdered by Neville Heath who is now depicted in Madame Tussaud's chamber of horrors. The body had re-mained undetected under a welcomed at Bournemouth rhododendron bush for sever-

al days because the town police horse-drawn carriage at the cliborough boundary dividing the valley. Ashley never walked

that path again. He photographed royalty and the stars but unknown to many readers he was never able to photograph the town's greatest annual event. Beales department store was the first shop in the world to have Father Christmas in residence. His arrival, until as recently as 1964, was like a royal visit with streets closed and extra police on duty. For 15 years, Harry Ashley was the very Central Station and driven in a

force only searched as far as the max of a long procession to the store where he made a balcony appearance.

Such serious parades are now only found abroad, notably in Holland where St Nicholas is welcomed, and Bournemouth's version had a similar atmosphere. Ashley's girth and per-sonality were perfect for the task which he admitted was "increasingly traumatic and emotional" as requests for special waves for sick children at different points on the route poured in.

Of course, someone else was enthroned in the store for the next few weeks. Ashley liked to

recall spending one snowy Christmas Eve evening at the White Hart in Sturminster Newton. A butcher, baker and blacksmith had called for a drink and across the narrow street, children were gathered around the old cross singing car-ols. This he claimed, "children did when the dialect poet

William Barnes went to school

here, more than 150 years be-Ashley was a founder member of the William Barnes So-ciety and author of In The Steps of William Barnes (1972) whose name is still known in the county almost as well as Hardy

through Ashley's championing.

On Christmas Day and New Year's Eve, he would join fellow Spartans, all-year-round swimmers, for a dip in Poole Bay. As Yachting Monthly's Poole Harbour Correspondent, he was able to highlight the in-terests of one of the largest natural harbours in the world, where he was instrumental in giving the ancient and largely ignored custom of Beating the Harbour Bounds a high profile. He enjoyed not only planning the land and water event, but

also dressing up and performing as an exuberant Poole Pirate. Many Dorset customs have books such as The Dorset Village

Book (1984) and The Dorset Coast: history, lore & legend (1992). He travelled more than 2.000 miles around the country iust for his Dorset Inns book (1986) published ten years ago. His twice reprinted Dorser: a portrait in colour (1986) was an opportunity for him to return to sites originally photographed in black and white, his favourite medium, during half a century.

Leigh Hatts

Harry William Ashley, photog-rapher and author: born Weymouth 16 June 1917; married 1939 Betty Jordan (one son); been recorded in his numerous died Christchurch, Dorset 29

Births. Marriages & Deaths

MARRIAGES

McKENZIE HONIGMANN: 12 April 1907 on the Franks Meeting House, fordors, Burkinghamshur, Valene Elizabeth Hewson McKenzie to Andrew Peter Paul Hompmann.

Amouncements for Gazette BIRTHS, MARRIAGES & DEATHS should be sent in writing to the Gazette Editor, The Independent, I Canada Square, Canary, Wharf, London E13 5DL, telephoned to 0171-293 2012 or faxed to 0171-293 2010, and are charged or 66.50 a line (VAT cutra), OTHER Gazytte antivitarements must be submitted in mg or fared; and are charged at £10 :: line, VAT ever,

ROYAL ENGAGEMENTS

POBAL: The Duke of York, Patron, Fight " Surface the Orandor 97 Trade Exhistorica the National Exhibition Centre. France Edward, President, atat the exercise to the National Youth Mark The site at Peterborough Cathedral And the are at the telephorough Cathedral, a mitred peaking. TOMORROW: The Coren's lake the salue at the St George's law Parade of Oncor's Scents in the quadrangle of Windsor Codle.

Changing of the Guard TOBAL The Household Cavalry Mounted Represent mounts the Queen's Life Guard at Horse Guards, Ham; 1st Bar-Good of Horse Guards, Ham; 1st Bar-nion The Royal Regunent of Wales, morals the Queen's Guard, at Bucking-ham Palace, H. Stan, band provided by the Coldwicker Guards, TOSIORROW, The Household Cavalry Mounted Regiment runts the Queen's Life Guard at Horse Guards, Ham: 14 Rattalion Seas Guards researts the Queen's Guard, at Bucking-ham Falsec, 11. Warn, band provided by the

Forthcoming marriages Mr M. T. G. Cobb

The engagement is announced be-tween Matthew, only son of the Rev and Mrs Peter Cobb, of Tal-y-coed, Monmouthshire, and Celia, only daughter of Mr and Mrs Robert Chegwin, of Cyncoed, Cardiff.

Birthdays

TODAY: Mr William Baillie, painter ind president. Royal Scottish Academy, 74; The Most Rev Luigi Bar-barito, Apostolic Pro-Nuncio, 75; Miss Sue Barker, tennis player, 41; Mr Aley Cluff, chairman and chief executive. Cluff Mining, 57; Mr Adrian Coles, director-general, Building Societies Association, 43; Mr Tim Curry, actor, 51; Mr Glyn or 1m Curry, actor, 51; Mr Glyn England, former chairman, Windchuster Ltd, 76: Sir Cyril English, educationist, 84; Mr Trevor Francis, fixetballer, 45; Sir Denis Henry, a Lord Justice of Appeal, 66; Sir John Horlock, Professor of Engineering, Open University, 69; Mrs Margo MacDonald, broadcaster, 53: Mr MacDonald, broadcaster, 53; Mr Dudley Moore, actor. 62; Mr Garlield Morgan, actor. 66; Mr Hugh O'Brian, actor. 72; Mr Murray Pershia, pianist, 50, Mr Alan Price, singer, 55: Sir John Roch, a Lord Justice of Appeal, 63; M Michel Roux, chef de cuisine, 50; Mr Peter Scott QC, 62: Mr Wilf Stevenson, director, British Film Institute, 50; Miss Ruby Wax, actress, writer and television presenter, 44; Mr Philip Wroughton, Lord-Licutemant (or Berkshire, 64, TOMORROW: Professor Derek Bowett OC, former president, Queens College, Cambridge, 70; Mr Michael Brandon, actor, 52; Mr Ray Brooks, actor, 58; Sir Geoffrey

perfield. former civil servant, 64;

The Right Rev Frederick Darwent, former Bishop of Aberdeen and

Orkney, 70; Mr Richard de Lange,

chairman and managing director, Philips Electronics UK, 52; Maj-Gen Sir Charles Dumphie, former chair-man, Vickers, 95; Miss Nina Foch, ac-tress, 73; Mr Graeme Fowler, cricketer, 40: Sir Arnold France, former chairman, Board of Inland Revenue, 86; Mr John Eliot Gar-diner, conductor, 54; Mr Mauricio Gugelmin, racing driver, 34; Mr Paul Heiney, writer and broadcaster, 48; Miss Louise Jameson, actress, 46; Mr Andrew Jaspan, former editor, the Observer, 45; Sir Antony Jay, author and scripturiter, 67; Mr Ed. author and scriptwriter, 67: Mr Eddie Kulukundis, theatrical producer, 65; Miss Jessica Lange, actress, 48; Mr Nicholas Lyndhurst, actor, 36; Mr Ryan O'Neal, actor, 56; Mr Rodger Pannone, solicitor, and former president of the Law Society of England and Wales, 54; Mr Leslie Phillips, actor, 73; Sir John Quicke, agriculturist, 75; Mr Richard Rhodes. Headmaster, Rossall School, Lan-cashire, 55: Mr Christopher Robinson, organist and director of music, St John's College, Cambridge, 61; Mr Peter Snow, broadcaster, 59; Miss Jean Southworth QC, chairman, Police Discipline Appeals Tribunal, 71; Mr Luther Vandross, soul singer, 46; Air Marshal Sir Richard Wakeford,

Anniversaries

TODAY: Births: Lucien Lévy-Bruhl, philosopher, 1857; Jayne Mansfield, actress, 1933. Deaths: Anton van Diemen, colonial administrator, 1645; George Gordon Noel Byron, Lord Byron, poet, 1824; Benjamin Disraell Earl of Beaconsfield, states-man and novelist, 1881; Charles Robert Darwin, biologist, 1882; Frankie Howerd, comedian, 1993. On this day: Sir Francis Drake sailed into the harbour of Cadiz and sank the Spanish fleet at harbour - "singeing the King of Spain's beard". 1587;

75; Mr Henry Wrong, director, European Arts Foundation, 67.

Prince Rainier III of Monaco married the actress Grace Kelly, 1956. Today is the Feast Day of St Alphege or Elphege of Canterbury, St Expedirus, St Geroldus and St Leo IX, Pope.

TOMORROW: Births: Adolf Hitler, dictator, 1889; Harold Lloyd, comedian, 1893; Joan Miró, abstract painter, 1893. Deaths: Antonio Canaletto, painter, 1768; Abraham (Bram) Stoker, theatre manager and author of Dracula, 1912. On this day: Captain James Cook discovered New South Wales, Australia, 1770; President Richard Nixon announced that 150,000 troops would be withdrawn from Vietnam, 1970. Today is the Feast Day of St Agnes of Mon-tepulciano, St Caedwalla, St Hilde-gund, St Marcellinus of Embrun, St Marcian or Marian of Auxerre and St Peter of Verona.

Lectures TODAY

TOMORROW

National Gallery: Julia Tozer, "Cru-elty and Kindness (iii): Puvis de Chavannes, The Beheading of Saint John the Baptist", 12pm. Victoria and Albert Museum: Linda Woolley, "Tread Softly: shoes and boots from the V&A's Collection",

Tate Gallery: Laurence Bradbury, "Ingenious Additions to Orthodox Techniques", lpm. British Museum: Lorna Oakes, "Sumerian Cities", 1.15pm. Royal Academy of Arts, London W1: Dinos and Jake Chapman, John Stezaker, Sarah Kent, "Monstrosity and Sexuality", 7pm.

Tate Gallery: Laurence Bradbury, "Scales of Success; miniature to National Portrait Gallery: Sally Bradshaw, Tunothy West and Michael Haslam, "George Frideric Handel: the man and his music", 3pm.

The power of praying by numbers

corner begin to falter. "We're losing him, Dr Ferguson, we're losing him!" Beads of perspiration appear on the surgeon's troubled brow. There's one last thing I can try: but I'll need your help, nurse."

What that last thing is I never know. Since the age of six I have fainted at the very mention of blood, and my eyes will have been closed long before this scene began. So for all I know, the operating theatre staff assume an attitude of prayer, on their knees around the endangered patient. Miraculously, this being the movies,

the blip starts up again.

This being real life, though, what happens when a similar technique is attempted? We might soon be able to find out. The Templeton Foundation, an organisation set up by a Wall Street millionaire to fund progress in religion, is sponsoring an experiment to judge the effect of prayer on heart patients in three American hospitals. Two groups of 600 pa-tients will be told that they might be prayed for, though only one group actually will be. A third group will know that they are being prayed for. The medical staff will be kept in the dark, merely keeping a record of all the patients' progress over

a two-year period. There are several methodological problems for the research team to overcome. The first, which I should have thought pretty basic, is the lack of a fourth, control group, made up of 600 people who believe they are not being prayed for and don't particularly want to be. Otherwise the effect of believing that one is possibly being prayed for cannot be gauged.

There is that moment in countless films when our hero is lying on the operating table. The blips from the monitor in the

An experiment to discover if prayer aids the recovery of heart patients may well prove positive, argues Paul Handley, editor of the Church Times, but other kinds of healing are just as important

call, disparagingly, "background noise", meaning extraneous prayers from the patients and their relatives. This being the case, the experiment will be measuring the effect, not of the presence or absence of prayer, but of different degrees of prayer. Another, slight, worry for the research

Second, there is what the researchers

team is that their activities might just incur divine displeasure. "Do not put the Lord your God to the test," said Moses, quoted by Jesus in the wilderness, or, as Alexander Pope put it, rather more elegantly, "presume not God to scan". Perhaps they need to make clear that this is a statistical experiment, not a challenge, and no patients will be put at risk in order to goad God into intervening.

Despite all this, my prediction is that the experiment will suggest that prayer does work. Those who know they are being prayed for will score, say, 20 per cent higher on whatever scale is used: survival rate, speed of recovery, etc. Those who have been prayed for without their knowlprayed-for patients did significantly bet-

ter "on several outcome measures".

But if so, what will be the consequences? The first, this being America, is that the grieving relatives of any of the unprayed-for and by-then-dead patients will sue the researchers for negligence. The second is that researchers will make a fat living attempting to pinpoint which types of prayer were the ones that worked, and then trying them on different diseases. The third is that an eager group will try to "mormonise" the world, collecting the names and biographical details of whole nations in order to heal everybody for Christ.

Finally, another group, with me in it, will ask these interceders just what they intend to do to support the hundreds of thousands of people, in developing countries, for instance, whose lives they have extended by their prayers. For if God invites us to participate in one part of the work of recreating and redeeming the world, he wants us to share in the whole lot. In fact, a bit more effort put into the normal means of keeping people alive such as providing food and clean water, preventing bloodshed, trading fairly might be more the sort of healing that God

had in mind. Death and the means of death are part of God's purpose for us all, whether prayed about or not. An experiment that makes this uncomfortable fact more difficult to grasp, by suggesting a miraculous alternative, does notody any good.

edge will score 15 per cent higher. This Faith & Reason is edited by Paul Vallely

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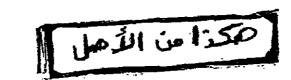
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* THE INDEPENDENT

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The Tories' puerile propaganda demeans us all

ike a gang of Fifties schoolboys sniggering over a pornographic magazine, the "ideas merchants" of Conservative Central Office must have flicked through their dog-eared stock of anti-European images. The weird fantasy they came up with was published yesterday - a Teutonic giant. There, in the Tory ads, was a gross, balefully grinning Helmut Kohl, the Federal Chancellor. He balanced a diminutive Tony Blair on his knee and the copy asked - sensitive and sophisticated, you will agree - who was going to be "man" enough to take on the Prussian Goliath. What a farrago. What a welter of sexual innuendo, Germanophobia and nationalist posturing.

As a piece of political imagining, Edwina Currie's judgement was spot on. "Puerile," she said; she might have added, this is the politics of little English boys in short trousers. But this stunt is not to be written off as just another jolly jape. How a political party goes about getting elected, or re-elected, is not a private matter. Images stick. What is said and done in Britain registers abroad, in banks and stock exchanges as well as foreign offices and party headquarters. People in other countries might confuse the outpourings of a desperate party with the general views of British people and in that way Tory tactical opportunism taints us all.

As for the "dummy", Tony Blair can take

speak and a publicity machine to amplify his voice. If he has any sense he will not stoop to the Tories' level, but in the face of the provocation of their advertisement showing him as a diminutive puppet sitting on Chancellor Kohl's knee, he has every right to respond in kind. Perhaps this Tory ploy will inject something into Labour's campaign that has hith-

erto been missing - anger.

But for the German leader, there is no ready come-back. The Federal Republic's embassy in London is polite, far too polite. In Bonn they prefer the "cool" line, dismissing both tabloid and Tory attacks on Germany as mere eccentricities. Yet they too ought to be angry. That the Christian Social Union or the Christian Democrats would ever portray a foreign leader in their electoral posters and advertisements is inconceivable. And that point can be generalised. In what other Western country would a contender for national office coldly and deliberately insult the head of state of a friendly neighbour?

The point is not that the Christian Democrats and the Conservatives are both right-ofcentre parties and have in the past co-operated in the European Parliament; nor even that it is barely four weeks since the Foreign Secretary Malcolm Rifkind was in Bonn addressing the CDU's think-tank as if talking to kindred or small, he has the hustings on which to has no manners; it is the impolite party. spirits. All that says is the latter-day Tory party



What is going on here is the substitution of stereotype for argument, propaganda for reasoned discussion. The Conservatives do have substantive differences with the CDU and its leader, Chancellor Kohl. John Major et al disagree with his views on the development of the European Union. All that is understood. But it should lead to engagement. debate, the exchange of perspectives, not to personalisation of the kind represented by this advertisement. Such failure to argue is a mark of the Conservatives' political decadence. (Perhaps it also demonstrates their conviction that they have indeed lost the election. For what party, knowing it might within weeks have to engage with Chancellor Kohl across negotiating tables in Maastricht and Amsterdam, would insult him in this way?)

You do not have to be a Freudian to read into this portrayal of the Chancellor and the German nation elements of some primitive fear in Tory guts about being swallowed up. The Tories, an analyst fresh from reading the Grimm Brothers might say, fear becoming the giant's supper. They focus their anxieties on a superhuman figure ... but too much of that and we could sound like Leo Abse. More prosaically and more dangerously, what this advertisement bears witness to is the Conservatives' failure to emancipate themselves from the clinging mud of wartime history. Here are echoes of that old, British military

Shocked by this farcical election

Sir: As a 19-year-old I will be voting

for the first time and I want to make

an informed choice. Foolishly, I

this would be to watch the party

thought one of the best ways to do

election proadcasts on the television

and discover what the parties had to

Instead I find a slanging match. When I thought things couldn't get any worse I discovered that a

"chicken" had been stalking Tony

Blair. (Isn't there a law against that

sort of thing?)
The 1997 election is a farce, which

does not bode well for the next four

Sir. I would vote for whichever party

banned those infuriating little stickers

ears, do maiter which

GILLIAN MARY BUZZARD

which are glued on all apples. PETER M SCOTT

Union Flag flies

over the Pacific

Sir: The report (16 April) on the

saga of Tuvalu's flag contains a

Latasi government changed the

it did not drop the Queen as

blue one.

Tuvalu's head of state. And the

original flag - now restored - has

not a yellow background but a light

Apropos of flags, it is remarkable that although, following the military

coups in 1987, Fiji became a republic

and its Commonwealth membership

lapsed, the Union Flag has firml

national flag - and, moreover, the

Queen's head has been retained on Fiji's currency. Their retention carries a wistful political message,

reflecting the strong sentiments of

Sovereign still felt by the people of

respect and affection for their former

remained in the corner of the

serious error. Although the former

national flag, abandoning the one which incorporated the Union Flag.

Watford, Hertfordshire

victorious.

identity which is such a ready source of assurance for those who fear the present. Put a Pickelhaube on Helmut Kohl's head (something readers of the advertisement are clearly being invited to do) and everything falls into place. He'll eat your babies and, given half a chance, shoot Edith Cavell, Britain triumphed against the Hun, against Hitler and will triumph again against Helmut!

This is the thought process of people who. at some level, fear themselves. They certainly do not trust in the capacity of Britain to meet the diplomatic, financial and commercial challenges of the next few years. There is something unmanly about all this, using that word in its old-fashioned sense.

Conservatives, in extremis, have behaved badly before. The great Churchill, in 1945, was not above hysterically warning that Clement Attice would head a Gestapo if Labour were elected. Conservative high command condoned if it did not itself instigate the notorious forged Zinoviev letter in 1924, A crudely executed newspaper advertisement hardly compares, except that never before would the Conservatives have so exposed their weakness. Would Margaret Thatcher ever have approved a public display of insecurity? Whatever she might have said in private about the Germans, she would surely never have exposed her party to the charge that the Tory posture on Europe is one of fear as well as loathing.

■ LETTERS TO THE EDITOR ■

Ministers' children give clue to our unfair school system

Sir: Your election report "Heseltine seeks state schools fit for Tories" (16 April) struck a chord. Mr Heseltine asserts: "The important thing is that we are setting targets nationally for this country to be at the top of world education levels". Thus, presumably, all state schools will provide education of such excellence that the

private sector will wither on the vine. The chard which struck was school fees. The information on the fees cabinet ministers pay to keep their children out of the state system for

which they have responsibility will be alien music to the ears of the parents of the school in which I teach. Our school, serving areas of high unemployment and multiple deprivation but high in teacher commitment and parental esteem, is about to close as a consequence of government cuts. The cost of each pupil's education is £800 per term.

We are deemed uneconomic. Ours is the uneconomic cost of addressing the needs of the seriously disadvantaged. Cabinet ministers are

paying fees between £1,500 and £4,600 per term to address the needs of the already significantly advantaged. If they are genuinely interested in setting targets of excellence ministers might begin by setting funding targets for the disadvantaged at levels closer to those of the advantaged. DANIEL McDONALD

Sir: Where politicians send their children probably says more about

them and the state of the nation than one day's worth of electioneering. I was fortunate enough to attend school with Peter Kohl, the son of the German Federal Chancellor.

You might wonder how much my parents had to fork out so I could attend this august institution. The answer is, nothing: the Lieselotte-Gymnasium is our local state-run grammar school. ALFRED RINALDI

Art without the mysticism

Sir: John Pope-Hennessey's idea. quoted by James Hall (Letters, 12 April), that use of life masks in portrait busts introduced "an interpretative element", and the latter's gloss that "it forced the artist to give the depicted body a soul", is

typical art-speak mysticism. The point about merely reproducing the shapes of "readymades", no matter the materials used, is whether it is really inventive, and shows anything of deep importance and interest, when it ducks the hard-won lessons and insights - including those about perception itself - acquired through the observational and analytical demands usually associated with artistic practice, and notably with painting and drawing skills.

Nowadays, the literal copying of sources or references, as in casts and academic" art, is a poor device for addressing, and casting light on, our complex, social, cultural, ideological, landscape. The artistic bankruptcy of the jelly-mould, pseudo avant garde -Antony Gormley, Rachel Whiteread, Marc Quinn etc. - is that it relies on an easy and limited formula, and on the facile principle of "defamiliarisation" or "making strange". This conveniently skirts the more difficult, discriminating, but complementary, task of familiarising the viewer with unfamiliar things that matter - new and perceptive ideas, experience. DAVID RODWAY Lecturer in Art and Philosophy Kensington and Chelsea College

London SW10 Sir: David Lister ("When treasure becomes a burden", 16 April) questions whether "it makes longterm practical sense" to honour strictly the terms of a bequest. As

guardians of Sir Denis Mahon's proposed bequest, the National Art Collections Fund has a clear view on

We firmly believe that, as long as it

is possible, the clearly expressed stipulations of a testator should be respected: such acts of generosity cannot be taken for granted. There really is a danger that (to use David Lister's words) "bequests to British galleries might dry up, if benefactors fear that their dying wishes will be overturned". Sir NICHOLAS GOODISON The National Art Collections Fund

London SW7

Sir. Your correspondent Mr Voreinberg (letter, 16 April) has got his facts wrong about access to the Government Art Collection (GAC).

The GAC is a working collection of some 12,000 works of art on view in 500 government buildings in 300 cities at home and abroad. At any one time between 75 and 80 per cent are on display, serving the national interest by showing British cultural achievements to a wide and international audience.

Individual works in the collection can be viewed by interested persons. by appointment, on the same basis as the listed works in private hands about which Mr Voremberg wrote. Indeed GAC staff will make every effort to obtain viewing access to GAC works in British embassies abroad, subject to common-sense considerations of security. JOHNTUSA

Advisory Committee on the Government Art Collection Department of National Heritage London W1



Save songbirds from hedgerow killer

Sir. The Royal Society for the Protection of Birds and the British Trust for Ornithology should be concerned about the decline in the populations of our native song and other birds (report, 16 April).

While pesticides should take some of the blame, why do none of the people who carry out these population surveys notice that the loss in small native birds seems to be balanced, if not out-performed by the huge rise in the magnie population? Magpies have become as common as any bird in towns and cities and ruthlessly destroy other birds' eggs

and eat their young. I have watched the five magnies who now visit my garden in a gang systematically "work" a hedgerow and eradicate

other birds' young. The old poem said "one for sorrow". If I were a bullfinch, green finch or any other native nesting bird, seeing only one magpie would fill me with positive relief. When will the RSPB and BTO stop sitting around measuring population falls and take radical action to encourage a cull of the magnie population? SGARMSTRONG Otford, Kent

Class-ridden trains from the airport

ROGER BARLTROP

Pacific Islands Society

West Sussex

Sir: The good news is that National Express, as operator of Gatwick Express, has ordered £100m worth of new trains (report, 15 April). The bad news is that the operator proposes to segregate the passengers into three classes for a 25-minute run. The present twoclass system already causes enough confusion among visitors unfamiliar with our preoccupation with unnecessary class distinctions. This service, at least, should be one-

A train is not a plane, and should not pretend to be; the relaxed, open environment of a well-designed train should come as a welcome contrast to the relatively cramped conditions of an aircraft. The last thing a passenger wants when trying to unwind after a flight is more of the DAVID MARKHAM

London N3

Saintly tally

Sir: Val Kilmer ("Latter Day Saint". 17 April) is not the third actor to play Simon Templar. You are forgetting George Sanders at least. JOHN THOMPSON

LETTER from THE EDITOR

these pages, about The Observer's sacking of Will Self, the gaunt and sometime drugbabysitter, she should know. ouess reputation the reverse - but that the whole that "whenever a friend succulture which links drink 'n' drugs to fine writing has such

a rotten record.

On the literary side, there are very few serious druggies who are readable. From the enormously tedious de Quincey to the grotesquely overrated William Burroughs, via the pathetic decline of F Scott Fitzgerald, drug habits have more often tended to tuin potentially great writers than make them. Good writing tends to involve huge concentration and long hours of grindingly hard work, not the few brilliant phrases flung down in the middle of the night of the drug-artist myth. I thought Trainsporting by Irvine Welsh was very good, but then again I suspect the man had a secret and hidden habit - sitting down at a table for many hours at a time with copious supplies of paper, tea and toast. (Given his

reputation, I guess that's a serious libel.) You may object: but Self has been fired as a journalist, and when has journalism ever had anything to do with fine writ-ing? Fair point, oh Reader, though there are a fair few phrase-spinners in the trade even so. But even journalism bas improved since the days when serious alcohol abuse from 11am onwards was considered a necessary qualification. Journalistic romantics who look back fondly on the days when would-be Brendan Behans poured out of Fleet Street pubs to spin some golden paragraphs should go back and look at what actually got writ-ten. The "pissed old hack" of Private Eye fame produced golden streams, no doubt, but rarely, I fear, of prose.

The best campaign comment that's roughly what I do wear. so far comes from a fine writer and wit whose indulgences

here has been much have not, so far as I know, been criticism, not least in chiefly chemical, the vaguely aristocratic American liberal Observer's sacking of Will Self.
the gaunt and sometime drugabusing novelist: Suzanne
Moore made an eloquent argument on his behalf, and as someone who uses him as a measuring stick." This has caused some offence among And yet, I am not so sure. My the Lilliputians, but they fail to problem is not that I think understand the Vidal humour. journalists should be people of This was, after all, the man who

ceeds, a little something in me

dies" and who savagely dis-

missed America's astronauts

while they were being regarded as national heroes, as "Rotar-

From the tedious de Quincey to the grotesquely overrated William Burroughs, drug habits have more often tended to ruin great writers

ians in outer space". British politics escapes him lightly.

And finally ... every editor has weak spots and blind spots. We have an excellent and witty fashion team here; on Tuesday, Melanic Rickey wrote a wonderful piece about Stella McCartney, the latest British designer to take over a big Paris fashion house. But I have to admit I struggle vainly to understand the whole business. All those bizarre clothes, those unexpected bulges of flesh, those spikes and gold lame thongs. They look odd enough when draped around some of the most beautiful people in the world: they would be frankly hilarious when worn by the rest of us. I don't know whether it's Maoism or Presbyterianism that prompts the thought, but wouldn't things be far more satisfactory if we all wore standard-issue blue pyjamas. Though, come to think of it, as a besuited middle-aged man.

Andrew Marr

National Theatre tours the world

Sir: I fail to understand how the National can be said to be "upstaged" by the RSC tour plans (report, 16 April). By the end of this year we will have toured four largescale productions to 15 venues in England, Wales and Scotland and four other productions to Holland, Greece, Germany and Ireland; we will also have mounted a twelveweek world tour, staged two productions in New York, and toured a small-scale production to 19 theatres in Britain.

In addition, we are responsible for BT National Connections, a partnership scheme with 10 regional theatres, in which 144 youth groups from all over the UK participate, culminating in 12 performances in the Olivier and

Cottesloe in July.

I don't know if this activity is sufficiently "rock n'roll" for your correspondent, but if the RSC has equally ambitious plans, Britain is being well served by its two national theatre companies. SIX RICHARD EYRE Artistic Director Repul National Theatre

London SEI

London SE I

Standing up for exploited garment workers A Code of Conduct based on carried out, and who will vet the

Sir. We welcome the news (report 15 April) that a US presidential task force, which includes major US. names such as Nike and Liz Claiborne, has become involved in drawing up a code of employment conduct to end the worst abuses of vorkers in the garment industry. Trade union research has uncovered

emble practices carried out in actories in Central America and Asia which include punishing women by forcing them to stand with chairs above their heads for hours on end, or making them work 24-hour shifts without pay. Unfortunately these types of practices are all too common.

international labour standards is a step in the right direction, but in order to operate properly must be independently monitored, and the trade unions which represent the workers at the factories must be involved. Current schemes where "independent" monitoring teams visit factories in the presence of complaints, are clearly not

company management to quiz workers about their rights, and then go back and report that they have no The key question will be in the details of how the monitoring is

monitors. If major multinationals are serious in their attempts to clean up the industry, trade unions must have a role in setting up the system, and the International Labour Organisation's technical assistance must be brought in to advise. This will help to guarantee consumers and the public that the goods they buy are being made under decent working conditions. BILL JORDAN General Secretary International Confederation of Free Trade Unions

Don't blame us Pagans for vandalism in church

Sir: I was surprised at the tone of your report "Pagan worship suspected in church", (16 April). Paganism is not anti-Christian or against any other religion. We tend to worship in woods and other places close to nature rather than buildings. My sympathy is extended to the vicar and his congregation at

Crowborough for this desecration of their sacred place. I can only conjecture who might be responsible - Satanists are a possibility, and are an anti-Christian cult. (We cannot worship the Devil since he is part of a Christian mythos that we do not follow.) Alternatively, it could be bad old-

fashioned vandalism. Either way, it is unlikely that Pagans would be breaking one of our three most cherished principles - "and it harm none". PETE JENNINGS Pagan Federation National

Letters should be addressed to Letters to the Editor, The Independent, One Canada Square, Canary Wharf, London E14 5DL (Far: 0171-293 2056; e-mail: letters@independent.co.uk) and include a daytime telephone number. Letters may be edited for length and clarity. We regret we are unable to acknowledge unpublished letters. Maghull,

If I had said 'I'm frightfully sorry, that's a very interesting question but I'd better go and ask Ken Clarke or Joe Bloggs or someone else before I give you an answer' - that's not the way I operate - John Major, on his failure to tell the Chancellor of his decision to offer a free vote on the European single currency

QUOTE UNQUOTE

Due to the disillusionment of the House on 8 April 8, we are endeavouring to clear all outstanding accounts - Letter sent by the Commons Finance Office to retiring MPs and others

New York is the most realistic place to grow up in, because everyhody's got their own problems and they don't care about yours - Mary J Blige, 'queen' of hip-hop

In a real sense the nuns are dead already. They are simply clearing a pathway to God. The idea is that if there is a God and you empty your mind of the clutter of existence, then you might just catch Him - Fiona Shaw, actress, after two weeks in a convent It does show a bit of cheek - they wouldn't dress him up as Mohammed for fear of insulting people - The Rev John Richardson, of the evangelical Reform Group, commenting on a pointing of Eric Cantona depicted as Jesus Christ, after Piero Della

Francesca's 'Resurrection of Christ' Imagine a big trough with 15 snouts in it taking what they can get - that's the common fisheries policy - Mike Townsend, chairman of the National Federation of Fishermen's Organisations

Is Peter Mandelson as good as he thinks?

The left loathes him. Many on the right won't go near him. Why, then, does Tony Blair trust Labour's director of communications so totally? Neil Lyndon asks if he's a genius or just a master flatterer

never to be heard of again. If we win, then the proper business of my life begins with Labour in

Nobody understands more perfectly and precisely than erful people in Britain. In the Peter Mandelson that this election is all-or-nothing time for realise his life-long ambition Peter Mandelson.

Though he had been Labour's head of communications from 1485 to 1989 and responsible for the Red Rose campaign of Neil Kinnock's first defeat in himself from operational responsibility for the 1992 campaign. He concentrated instead elected for the first time as an given a safe seat, he was the only member of Kinnock's inner coterie who could be sure ising Blair, from policy-wonker take much more.

off into a hole if the leader lost. So it was. It's different this time. May Day 1997 is do or die for Mandelson, crack of doom or gates of paradise. If Blair wins, Peter Mandelson will be made. Cer-

tain of senior office, he will become one of the most powand become foreign secretary. In the 1992 election, he was If Blair should lose, the blame the man who couldn't lose, will be Mandelson's as much as As Dennis Skinner's bête

noire, as Clare Short's "man in the dark", as the most seriously, unassuageably hated individual in Blair's circle. Mandelson would cop all the heat for a Labour defeat and he would deserve it. His, above on cultivating his Hartlepool all, has been the determining constituency and on becoming voice in Labour's electoral strategy for the past two years. MP. II Kinnock had won. Man- His was the decision to abandelson could have counted on don the wider electorate and junior office with an expecta-tion of rapid promotion. But, efforts on the 200,000-odd voters in key marginals.

He took the lead in Clinton-

f we lose. I crawl to have any kind of political job to baby-kisser. Master of Millbank Towers, Supreme Controller of the banks of fax machines and the racks of pagers, it was Mandelson who calculated that Labour's best chance of victory lay in saying nothing and doing less. Given Blair's 30-point lead in the polls. Labour could only lose support by making policy declarations.

> The more precisely they announced their plans, the more voters would decide that they didn't like what they heard. Nothing could be gained by an open airing and a detailed discussion of policies but everything could be lost. "Careless watchword of Millbank Tower. Peter Mandelson because it Labour's director of communications became the dictator of one. non-communication.

The strategy will probably succeed. Blair's lead is still widening in some polls and may be unassailable. Only two weeks of torture on the rack of uncertainty remain for the most calculating man in British public life. He probably couldn't

hough he is often - usually - described as "sinis-ter", nobody who knows him doubts the effectiveness of Mandelson's skills as a personal operator. Ruthless, vengeful, bullying, flattering, driven, serpentine and crafty, he possses as full an array of natural gifts for personal advancement as a Lloyd George, a Macmil-lan or a Wilson. He is also

> Two questions, two doubts, do hang constantly in the air around him, however. How good is he at his work? And why does Tony Blair seem to trust him so unreservedly?

gaunt as a saint, his body and

face are showing his pains. He

hasn't drunk any alcohol since

New Year's Eve. Won't touch

coffee. Drinks a glass of water

with a slice of lemon for break-

fast. Doesn't do lunches or din-

ners with journalists. Sleeps

less than Margaret Thatcher during the Falklands war. He

knows that the supreme moment in the life of Peter

Mandelson is at hand. Despite

his denials ("I'm not important.

I don't matter. I can't see why

anybody should be interested in

me; and what they write is such

crap anyway"), the destiny of

the nation as it will be deter-

As a politician, Peter Mandelson has made his name and his reputation as Labour's supremely effective, calculating, professional media sharpie, the one who knows how to work, cow and corral the journalists, who understands image-

cc He gave great head," intoned Lee Renaido, a member of the rock band Sonic Youth,

as he stood on the stage of St Mark's

Church in Manhattan's East Village. The event was no nonchalantly outre

indie-rock show but Allen Ginsberg's

memorial service, held at the church

which has been a temple for poets, rock

stars and three generations of urban

elder statesman of youth culture died of

liver cancer, Renaldo was reading from

"Death & Fame", the last poem Ginsberg

wrote. The poem, which appears in this week's issue of The New Yorker, is a stun-

ning catalogue of his own funeral where

the very crowd that dropped in on his

memorial service is summoned: "college

Six days after the 70-year-old poet and

bohemians.

making, who feels in his bones the culture of media politics. Sheffield rally of 1992 (Mandelson's gig), the legend is now fixed - and it will become immemorial if Labour wins on 1 May - that the party's media operations were clueless until Mandelson arrived in Walworth Road in time for the 1987 election and that he has profes-sionalised them, out-Saatchiing the Tories, duncing the Lib Dems. He is both praised and damned for the Americanisation of the Labour Party, with its computerised hit-lists of target voters, its telephoneblitzings, its message centres paging shadow ministers.

According to Sidney Bluwill settle his own. The two are menthal, author of The Permanent Campaign, Clinton-watcher and New York crony of Mandelson, those who suppose that Mandelson got his media style from the Democrats' 1990s campaigns are making the wrong guess.
"I think Peter was on to it

long before the Clinton campaign," says Blumenthal. "He had been thinking about and working on the power of symbols and the business of media management since even before the Red Rose and the Hugh Hudson film of the Eighties. What he brings to the new technology of political culture is not, primarily, a technocratic interest but the classical skills of a politician which he has

adapted to that culture." Blumenthal believes that Mandelson is "so sharp, so smart" that he would have done well in American politics, if he had been born there, even though the promotional bud-gets and political complexities

of British media managers are tiddling compared with US presidential or even gubernatorial campaigns. But the "classical skills" Blumenthal identifies in Mandelson may, in fact, diminish and inhibit his effectiveness as a party political Mandelson, rated by many

for his dazzling intellect, is acknowledged as a clever and shrewd analyst of the political scene. He has friends in high places across the spectrum, ncluding prominent Tories. One newspaper editor who knows Mandelson well said: "In good form, he can be witty and highly entertaining. An But cross him and he is ice-

A Labour insider says: "He gets up noses to a fantastic degree." That may explain why, as another key Labour supporter observed: "Mandelson makes false friends and deadly serious, permanent

An anecdotal vignette may light up this question. In London in January, Peter Mandelson was the principal speaker and whipper-in of cash at a fund-raising gathering of rich Labour supporters. Most

of the usual suspects among the small body of Millionaires for Blair had been rounded up. Sir David Puttnam had taken a lead in organising the evening. Greg Dyke, Melvyn Bragg, Clive Hollick and Jeremy Irons were there - all quoted names in the 1000 Club, whose members regularly dish out a thousand here, a thousand there to keep Labour's Millbank Tower offices running on their speedy

For once, they missed a beat

diet of pizzas and pagers, Cokes

This particular evening was unusual because, on Blair's behalf, Mandelson was calling for an exceptionally heavy hit. Each of the invited guests would be asked to stump up £25,000 for Labour's election

Mandelson almost blew it. "It ought to have been the simplest pitch imaginable," said one of the men who attended. "All he needed to do was to produce a graphic showing that the Conservatives had £50m or more to spend and Labour had less than £5m. Then you turn to these people and say 'If you evening with him can be one of seriously want Labour to be in the best nights out in London. government, we need to see the delson? Neil Kinnock was colour of your money. Here's a

> Instead, Mandelson staged a lengthy performance which listeners recall as being largely in praise of his own brilliance as Labour's director of communications. The clever and successful men in his audience rew restive. One of them told The Independent "Five minutes of how clever he was might have carried along our goodwill. Ten-seemed boastful. Forty minutes was just infuriating."

Somebody sitting near to a fuming Melvyn Bragg said: "He looked like a volcano about to blow." One of the millionaires, a successful administrator, was irked when Mandelson dismissed his disquiet about Labour's NHS funding plans. "He doesn't know what he's talking about," the administra-tor hissed despairingly to a

neighbour.
Then a little moment of

beeped. He paused, looked at the message and then extended his arm with the pager in his hand. An aide - Benjamin Wegg-Prosser from Mandelson's own political office - scurried from the wings to take the machine from his master's hand. Mandelson did not look at the young man but continued with his address to the mighty.

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alk about

"It was a perfect moment: New Labour meets the old Raj," recalls one of the guests. "It also tells you so much about the pretence of efficiency and the mania for presentation in the Mandelson manner, which masks a profoundly inefficient and counter-productive ego-

"At that moment, there could not have been any message arriving on Peter Mandelson's pager more important than the business he was conducting, unless the message was that Tony Blair had been shot, in which case every pager in the room would have gone off simultaneously. So why did Mandelson have his pager switched on at all? If his messages were going to be taken by Benjamin Wegg-Prosser, why didn't he give his pager to Benjamin before he started speaking? Does he imagine that any of those men would be

performance?" Did any of those millionaires who were irked, irritable and unimpressed stump up their £25,000s? To a man, they did. The result was a foregone conclusion. Mandelson took both the money and the opportunity to swank. The evening was a perfect success for him; and would have been reported as such to Tony Blair.

¶he election is likely to go the same way. Though they may be unimunenthusiastic. pressed. uncommitted - though millions may remain undecided - the electorate as a whole will probably stump up the foregone conclusion of a Labour victory. This will be seen and taken as a perfect success for Mandelson and will be received in those terms by Tony Blair.

never completely convinced and is now wry and dry about his former head of communications. Gordon Brown would not now give Peter Mandelson the steam off his breath. Until John Smith died, Mandelson had judiciously kept an equal balance in his intimacies with Brown and Blair, trusted as counsellor by both. In the leadership contest, Mandelson became "Bobby" to Blair and ditched Brown. He will never be forgiven.

"One of the most serious criticisms to be made against Tony Blair," says a hugely prominent Labour supporter, is that he trusts Peter Mandelson. It's a real blind spot.
"He simply doesn't see that

Peter is a master of flattery and a perfect courtier. Leaders create courts, whether or not they intend to. Flattery is one of the leading arts of the court, an art we may have lost or not appredrama occurred. While he was ciate. Peter knows its power speaking, Mandelson's pager and he has got his man.

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regnancy



Peter Orlovsky (left) with poet Amiri Beraka at a Ginsberg memorial service

boys' grunge bands ... delicate bibliophiles, sex liberation troops ... He was an ambassador-at-large for New York's young, uninhibited, cerebral and notorious for more than 40 years and among the 1,100 people in atten-

dance were the requested "half-century of lovers", "gay classical composers" and plenty of "intelligent gawkers". Two pretty post-adolescents, David Greenberg and Oliver Ray, sang Ginsberg's "Gospel Nobel Truths" with a lack of skill reminiscent of the great man's tone-deaf chants to Yahweh. The art rock star Patti Smith, bearing an

pretty boy herself, sang some Hank Williams and said: "Even the young appreciate a good shit." That was a response to Peter Orlovsky, Ginsberg's long-time lover, who eulogised him by talking at uncomfortable length about his bathroom habits.

The actress Rosanna Arquette sat in the lotus position, swaying. A smellier but no less flexible man also sat in the lotus position and hissed the word "Creepies!" at fellow mourners. Amiri Baraka, the activist/polemicist formerly known as uncanny resemblance to a teenage the poet Leroi Jones, quoted Mao.

"There's a lot of ass, a lot of cunt under the world," read the music pro-ducer Hal Wilmer, before a Zen-like photo of Ginsberg. The mourners learnt that there was a street named after Ginsberg in New Jersey, that one of his songs had reached number eight in the Australian pop music charts and that as

a young man he had wanted to be a saint. The service seemed a final proof that the most uncloseted man in American had defined Nineties kinder and continued to invigorate the current alterna-culture - a culture most famous

for the airbrushed and co-opted nature of its subversion. Young bohos returned Ginsberg's favour: cheering, airing their sexy emotions musically, and applauding laughing references to J Edgar Hoover and Ginsberg that they proba-bly didn't understand. They placed a bunch of grapes, an empty whiskey bottle and a wool hat in front of the church in memoriam.

Larry Fagin, a poet and friend of 40 years, described Ginsberg as one of the first generation of adolescents whose teenage years extended into adulthood. "He was a mother and a father and a protector," said Fagin, who noted Ginsberg also had a penchant for rock stars.

in — "Ai

One poet summarised the crowd's sentiment. He said that the first person he thought to tell Allen Ginsberg had died was Allen Ginsberg. For many of the fervent-eyed, shaggy-haired on-lookers. Ginsberg was the man who bought cantaloupes at Lower East Side delicatessens, trailed by handsome assistants. As in his famous poem where Walt Whitman appears at the supermarket, spotting Ginsberg at the corner shop brought mundane transcendence to many of the East Village's young. The crowd at St Mark's Church seemed to share the knowledge that they were saying goodbye to the man who with his beat contemporaries pioneered "hipness", a condition that they can mimic, then sell, but can never attain.

THE MANAGEMENT

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Never mind the bulldogs – let's talk about real life

he French do it better, of course. They don't just think with more style, but with more depth. Even your average Norman, thought by Parisians to be as unsophisticated and dull as one of his cows, can (and will, given half a chance) give you a learned dissertation on the fate of the inner city. They care more about public affairs, and frankly, they know more.

By comparison, we seem to know little about our own affairs, understand less, and care not at all. If the level of argument normally deployed in TV debates and the popular press is anything to go by, we may be entering the 21st century with the least wellinformed electorate in

Europe.
The differences are starkly illustrated by the behaviour of the medium least able to cope with complex argument - television.

French TV is highly competitive, and underfunded. In theory, it should be spending every minute attracting audiences with soap operas, American mini-series and quizzes. Yet this week alone, the TV schedules show three major TV programmes in prime time which are nothing but serious talkfests of the kind the French adore.

Sacha discute, the lightest of the three, dealt with the issue of the children of divorced parents for 90 minutes. Sacha took it seriously, wheeling in experts and quizzing the families in detail. That pro-

twice the airtime. And with respect to Pax-man and friends, the programme's host is so caused by the shortage of homes? highly valued that he is reputed to be France's highest-paid TV personality.

large audiences. La Marche du Siècle is a twohour discussion which this week focused on

If this strikes you as a peculiarly uncommercial piece of scheduling, I should pointout that Jean-Marie Cavada, the programme's host, is also the station's director. This is not a man likely to put a ratings loser on at ten to nine and let it run for two hours

- every week. Yes, the French are notoriously gabby, ready to talk the hind legs of a frog. But the point is that the French interest in public affairs is not the preserve of a small elite who read big newspapers.

The French explanation for our boredom

with these big issues is that we are a nation of islanders interested only in football and sexual perversion. It may be true that we have become used to the intellectual fast food offered by TV and the tabloids, and are increasingly unable to cope with the political or civic equivalent of a decent meal. If so, then we are in danger of ending up with Kentucky Fried Chicken running our affairs. And the result will be that we will have no answer to some of the most important issues facing

our people. First, there has been no discussion, either before or during the election campaign, of the scientific or technological issues that rule our lives. Virtually every great shift in our human history has been attributable to a scientific can any government claim to have a mandate discovery and its application by engineers. on the things that matter?



Trevor Phillips

That vital issues are not being discussed is bad enough; that we don't care enough to discuss them is the real

government how to say we feel about these issues? Secondly, we live longer, break up more often. Where will the 4.4 million extra calamity homes needed in the UK come from? Will we build

should be invited by our next

tional corporations.

The printing press, the steam

engine, the semiconductor,

DNA, nuclear power - every one of these has changed the

human race permanently and

irrevocably. Yet we hear little of these issues or their 1990s

no debate on genetic engineering, which will probably transform our diets and cating

habits in the next decade, and

will be infinitely more impor-

tant than any passing concern about say, BSE or fish stocks. The single most revolution-

ary piece of science is receiv-

ing no attention at all. It is

responsible for the volatility of financial markets, for the shift of millions of jobs from Europe to the Pacific rim, for

our relative uncompetitive-

Today, for example, there is

equivalents.

more on green-belt land? Or gramme went out at 10.40 in the evening - will we clog up our inner cities further with comparable to our own Newsnight, but with homes and offices? What will we do to pre-

And third, the beast that has been lurking under every discussion of transport and the There are even more heavyweight public environment - what shall we do about the affairs shows scheduled in prime time. Envoye car? We love our own cars; but we'd like Special is an investigative programme that everybody else's off the road. A new govwith dramatic measures. Yet beyond a few bland promises to review this, or to tax that, we hear little from the main parties, and certainly don't see a debate of the seriousness

the crisis warrants. Our ability to debate these issues is said by some to be hampered by the work of the spin doctors. I doubt it. Peter Mandelson, the archetypal spin doctor, is a man who studied politics, philosophy and economics, went off to teach in Tanzania, campaigned against youth unemployment, and sat on Lambeth council in its darkest days. Prince of Darkness may be a good gag, but it's significant that when he went to work in TV, Mandelson chose the most eggheaded, ascetic and demanding of programmes - Brian Walden's Weekend World. Not much sign of an instinc-

tive bowdleriser there.

If we need to point the finger, perhaps it should be directed at the political class's fear that the public either does not want to or cannot understand these great issues.

In particular, we seem to believe that anything involving scientific or mathematical explanation will just make the voter's head hurt. If that is true, it is a calamity. In the modern world, where technology and science rule our lives, how can we make a serious choice if we cannot understand the issues involved, or choose not to? And if we the voters fail to make those choices positively, how

A royal bungalow in the Tesco style

he Royal Family is not known for its taste in architec-ture. When, in 1956, James Pope-Hennessey, the impossibly grand curator and art historian, went to see Sandringham, the family's grandiose holiday cottage in north Norfolk, he found the Saxe-Coburg-Gothas' lumbering, late-Victorian pile "tremen-dously vulgar and emphatically, almost defiantly, hideous and gloomy". As the "Pope", a famous snob but an aesthete of impeccable taste, was writing the official biography of Queen Mary at the time, he was doubtless holding back from expressing his true opin-ion of Sandringham. "To sum up," he wrote judiciously, "this is a hideous house, with a hor-

صكدا من الأصل

ness in any industry that demands high levels of edu-cation from its workers; it is what makes a single Eurorible atmosphere in parts and in others no atmosphere at pean currency a virtual inevitability. The instanta-Nine years earlier, Harold Nicholson had been commisneous digital transmission of sioned to write the official bioginformation has put fiscal polraphy of George V. He visited York Cottage, the late king's favourite home, an 1860s "coticy in the hands of multina-The odd pop at Rupert tage" in the grounds of San-dringham, complete with pseudo-Gothic and Joke Oak Murdoch, or a promise to put computers in classrooms and to make the internet available bardly matches up to the scale of the challenge. But surely we

additions commissioned by George V himself. Nicholson, another man of learning and taste, took a good look round and, drawing on his by no means inconsiderable literary powers, described this representation of royal taste in brick and stone as a "horrid little house".

It should come as no surprise, then, to find that the Prince of Wales's latest venture into the realm of architecture, in his grounds at Highgrove, has met with less than flatter-ing criticism. The Prince pur-ports to stand for fine and noble principles in architectural design, and lambasts mod-ern architects, but when he himself embraces the Mistress work out. The "Orchard Room", a vaguely Classical bungalow designed by Charles Morris, a Norfolk surveyor whom the Prince met at Sandringham, has been described this week as being "like a Wimpey house" in "the Tesco style". Its gabled roof is "oversized", "its squat little columns are toylike", its chimney is "feeble". And these are not the comments of zealously Modern architects, but those of the polo-necked jumper and

Are people being cruel? Surely the Prince must be allowed to build in the style he feels most comfortable with in his own backyard. The style he has chosen - a sort of, you know, vernacular Georgian thingy - is entirely in keeping with his own beliefs on architecture, and as appropriate for Highgrove as York Cottage was for Sandringham or his brother's Kentucky Fried Georgian excrescence in Wind-

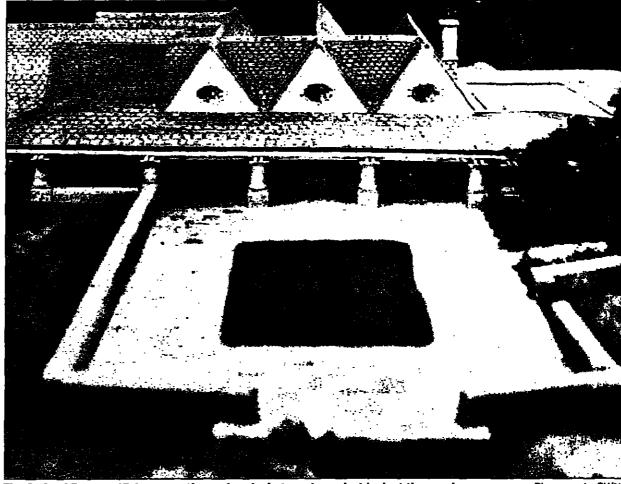
designer-suit tendency: among

others, they are culled from The

Daily Telegraph, no stranger to

the royal embrace.

by Jonathan Glancey



The Orchard Room at Highgrove: a tiny carbuncle, but my dears, just look at those columns

Photograph: SWNS

The Prince of Wales lambasts modern architects. but when he himself embraces the Mistress Art. things just don't seem to work out

The Prince views the new that have been converted into who commissioned and built it. "Orchard Room" as "a country building with elegance", which is, it must be said, the sort of line one has come to expect from house-builders who, collectively, are undermining the quality of what remains of our countryside with their "vernacular-style" Neo-Georgian and Tudor-

bethan homes. The Duchy of Cornwall, the Prince's own West Country fieldom, toes the house-builders' line. Apart from Poundbury, that Toy Town development on the fringe of Dorchester in Dorset, the Duchy is busy erecting no fewer than three hundred potty "vernacular" houses on the edge of Shepton Mallet, Somerset, and 31 new homes in the guise of "barns". "gate-houses" and "Georgianstyle cottages" on the Cornish

coast at Pentire. Sir John Betjeman, whose favourite spot this was, will be turning in his grave. Making barns into houses and architects' studios is bad enough (why not convert them into

homes borders on the perverse, if not the pathological. As architects are unnecessary to design such rural fa-las, so the Prince has done without the services of an architect at Highgrove. There is no reason why an architect has to be employed on the design of what is only a small estate office for princely business and charitable events.

In any case, the pedigree of Charles Morris is beyond reproach. He is the great-greatgrandson of Sir John Kelk, who built (but did not design) the Albert Hall on Kensington Gore, and thus a Good Thing. The genes of Sir John have clearly passed through to young master Morris, as you can see from the picture above.

The important thing, here, is to keep a sense of proportion. even though the Prince and Mr Morris have failed to do just that (my dears, just look at those columns). The "Orchard Room" is just the tiniest of carbuncles and few people will ever get to see it. It is entirely barns?), but to build twee new fit for its purpose and reflects homes in the guise of old barns the taste and ambitions of those

Eastern Railway's headquarters at Liverpool Street. Some years ago, Prince Philip wanted to demolish much of Sandringham to build anew, but was stopped in his tracks by the Queen Mother, who thought the family should respect its own history. You can't say fairer than that. The Prince must be allowed to build "Wimpey"/"Tesco"/"Toy Town" hun-Most of all, it follows royal precedent. Poor "Bertie" galows in the grounds of his own home. It is, in any case, Edward VII to you and me -

was so upset, when Prince of

Wales, by the handsome Geor-

gian house (frightfully middle-

class) that stood where San-

dringham stands today, that he had it demolished and brought

in A J Humbert as architect and

Goggs Bros of Swaffham (builders) to fashion the grim

Victorian pile that James Pope-

Hennessey was unable to find

even more like a railway hotel

than it did when first built by

additions made by Colonel R

The house was made to look

kind word for.

barns (thus denying them to more deserving owls, bats and interesting rodents) or erecting garages (sorry, "carriage houses") in the guise of barns. Even so, for all our sakes, for those of our children and the future of what we call "the countryside", such buildings must be held in check safely behind the high walls of Highgrove and other royal estates. or in the grounds of those who still wish to court favour with

what many smart people in the

area do when not converting

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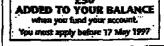
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jo brand's week

The Daily Mail nailed its misogynist colours to the mast once again this week with its sensitive and caring treatment of Mo Mowlem. In its usual nasty little Home Counties way, it laid into Ms Mowlem because of a weight gain and doubtless because it was another opportunity to have a go at a Labour woman, one of a species, who, in Daily Mail land, inhabits dungarees, has girlfriends, and looks like a plumber's mate. The particularly lovely thing about the Mail is that the misogyny does not issue forth from the pens solely of male writers, vitriol spews forth in equal measure from its female journalists as well. And as for Linda Lee-Potter. throwing abuse around about looks, given she looks as if she's had a narrow escape from running in the Grand National because of a bomb scare, the woman has the most incredible cheek, or no mirrors in the house. Of oourse Ms Mowlem's weight gain was as a result of being

prescribed certain drugs. fellowing the discovery of a

brain tumour. Despite

everyone then feeling immense sympathy for her because of her illness, the fact is that the Daily Mail shouldn't even be indulging in this sort of trivial and victous abuse in the first place, whether the woman has a brain tumour or not. As a sufferer of Not-Looking-Like-A-Supermodel syndrome, I have received plenty of this kind of hypocritical judgement myself and maybe it's time the Daily Mail turned the critical spotlight on the majority of its female readers - the unlubricated, bitter,

blue-rinse brigade from the Home Counties. Not many lookers there, I suspect. Of course this is unimportant, but we should bear in mind the more important issue, which is that the milk of human kindness leaked away from these dried-up old baggages a very long time ago and that really is grounds for an attack.

I wonder how it would feel to be a black member of staff at the BBC, knowing that the corporation was involved in producing and showing a



party political broadcast on behalf of a party that wanted to legalise rape. It seems so ridiculous, in an age where we have laws to prevent certain moronic individuals inciting racial hatred, that it's perfectly OK to broadcast such opinions on the screens of millions of viewers. The BBC is protesting that its hands are tied because of election rules, but it withdrew a broadcast by the National Front in 1983, so a precedent has been set. If the corporation shows this

particular nasty rant, they

will be letting down their staff and setting back the cause of so many people who have attempted, for many years, to combat the bigotry that infects a handful of very small minds in this country.

"It's all gone pear-shaped" has entered the language as a way of describing how things have gone disastrously wrong. However, it certainly has not gone pear-shaped for the pear-shaped, as this week the usual gaggle of medical experts produced a report on the subject. Apparently, if you store fat in your big end, as opposed to round the tummy, it is much healthier. So at least that's some

consolation for women who have to buy trousers that are two sizes bigger than tops. The report fails to describe the consequence of baving a big bottom and a big tummy. Oh well, I'm sure it's not good news.

One of my biggest regrets in life is that, as a 17 year old

working in a residential home for adults with learning difficulties, I let my suspicions about a member of staff be ignored by the head of the home. Having noticed that a charge nurse appeared to be behaving inappropriately with female residents, I complained to the head of the home, who pointed out that the charge nurse in question had been in the job for years and I had been there a few months and it would therefore be best if I left. I did. But now, when I read news items like the ones this week about a couple who ran a private home and are charged with running a cruel and abusive regime, I wish I had stuck to my guns and taken the matter further. We

now know that it tends to be

those staff who have become as institutionalised as their charges who commit these terrible acts. As a failed whistleblower, I just hope that there are people out there who are less naïve and more sure of themselves than Bureaucracy is a terrible

curse. I was attempting to find out this week whether I was eligible to vote in a particular area of London or not. Having telephoned the local election registrar, I was informed that no questions could be answered on the phone and I had to write. I did. About four days later, I received a form offering me a postal or proxy vote, neither of which I wanted. Still, rather than wasting more time writing back, I requested a proxy vote. This elicited an incredulous phone call asking me to call. I did. I explained myself and was advised about my eligibility and the location of the polling station, which was what I wanted to know in the first place. Good job I didn't have a really

complicated question.

'Independent'

wins Financial

Journal award

business & city

High Court stalls £1bn Co-op bid

City Correspondent

An audacious £1.2bn break-up bid for the whole of the Co-operative Wholesale Society was thwarted by legal action yes-terday when the CWS obtained a High Court order preventing Andrew Regan and his Lanica Trust vehicle from using confi-

dential information. The move came as Mr Regan was on the point of launching his ambitious attack through Galileo, an offshoot of Lanica. In a statement issued just before 6pm Galileo confirmed that it had intended to announce "today" formal proposals for the conversion of the CWS to a limited company so that Galileo

could then make an offer to

acquire the company.
The bid would have included the Co-operative Bank as well as the food retailing operations, funeral parlours, travel agencies and the chain of opticians. The only business not included in the offer was the Co-operative Insurance Society which would have continued to

be owned by its membership. The statement said Galileo had been preventing from going ahead with its offer by the court injunction. It added: "Galileo regrets that the members of the CWS, both individual and corporate, have, for the time being, been denied the opportunity to consider its proposals which it is confident

would benfit members, employees, customers and the cooperative movement as a whole." However, if Galileo can make its bid wibtout the use of confindential infomations it

could still proceed. It is understood that the 31 year-old Mr Regan had lined up buyers for all the CWS busi-nesses. The Allied Irish Bank was in line to buy the Co-op Bank from Galileo, if the bid had been successful.

The court order was granted against Mr Regan, his right hand man David Lyons, Lanica Trust and Galileo, the arms length company being used to mount the bid. Also cited was Allan Green who was suspended on Thursday by the years. It came a day after Mr

CWS as controller of its retail- Green and buying manager ing operations following suspibreaches of trust."

The order was granted by Justice Gavin Lightman and prohibits the three men from using any confidential CWS information. They are also required to disclose, under oath, all the information that has been passed to them as well as how the information would have been used. They must do this by 4pm next Tuesday and return all the information to the CWS.

The court injunction and the Galileo statement ends a dra-matic week in what has become come one of the most mesmerising "bid" battles of recent David Chambers were suspended by the CWS amid susicions that they were colluding with Mr Regan. This action was the result of a CWS monitoring operation which included photographs of secret meetings and the logging of telephone calls between Mr Regan and Mr

The CWS said it hoped that the injunction and the suspen-sions would "bring this matter to a close.

Mr Regan and Lanica Trust were making no comment yes-terday. It is thought that the company was in talks with its advisers on how best to proceed after this latest setback. Early yesterday it looked like

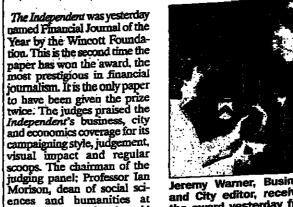
mitiative. By mid-morning there were strong rumours in the stock market that there would be an announcement from Lanica "within the hour." This was thought to be a £1.2bn offer for the whole CWS which would have involved the conversion of the society into a firmited company and the dis-tribution of £600 to £2,400 to each

bers. There are 2 million members of the CWS of which 500,000 are considered "active."

But before Mr Regan had a chance to strike, the Co-op moved first by obtaining the

of the society's individual mem-

court order. The CWS declined to coment further on the court order.



and City editor, receiving the award yesterday from Elizabeth Wincott-Heckett

paper that appealed to the professional and lay reader alike. The Senior Financial Journalist of the Year award went to Anatole Kaletsky of The Times and the Young Financial Jour-nalist of the Year Award was shared by William Lewis of the Financial Times and Daniel Litvin of The Economist. The Broadcast Business Journalist of the Year was Alison Mitchell and the Business Broadcast of the Year award went to When Rover Met BMW, produced by

Exchange deals severe blow to market-makers ecutive, was effectively ousted Tom Stevenson by the market-making firms he had crossed. Others to have been unhap-

City Editor

The Stock Exchange dealt another blow to the endangered business of market-making yesterday when it published recommendations that, if accepted, will put an end to the delayed publication of stock market bargains. The change, to coincide with the introduction of electronic order-driven trading in October, is designed to make the London market more transparent but some believe it represents another nail in the market makers' coffin.

The change in October to immediate notification of deals, no matter how large or small, will mark an end to the privilege market-makers have enjoyed of keeping quiet about large trades for up to 90 minutes in order that they can lay off the risk of holding shares before the market moves against them.

In an effort to even the playing field between the current quote-driven telephone based system of trading and the planned new system of electronically posted buy and sell or-

ders, that privilege is to be ended.

The decision, which although still officially in the consultation phase is understood to be certain to go ahead, is a significant change from the situation in force as recently as last December when the powerful market making firms were insisting that their protection should be built in to the new system.

Yesterday's move effectively means the market makers have privileges, including the Securities and Investments Board (SlB), the top City regulator, transparency on the stock market. It represents a notable victory for the Stock Exchange only 15 months after Michael lication can be delayed beyond to form Concert. It owns con-Lawrence, its former chief ex-

py with market makers privi-leges include the Loudon International Financial Futures Exchange, LIFFE, which was unable to price some of its derivative products such as equity traded options with certainty because there was no guarantee that the market price was the price at which large recent trades had actually been transacted. Foreign brokers have also been unhappy that they might be dealing at disadvantageous prices compared to better informed local players.

The Stock Exchange has moved to level the playing field to try and ensure that enough market participants used the new system to make it viable. After recent embarrassments it would have been disastrous for the order-driven system not to have been credible.

The proposals include a changed regime for so-called "worked trades" where market makers will continue to be allowed to delay publication of a trade if the purpose of doing so is to improve the price or size of a large deal for a client. The Stock Exchange is expected to put in place systems to monitor these delays to ensure there is no abuse of the loophole.

Discussions with SIB are

happening now to determine both the proportion of a worked trade that must be completed before a bargain becomes notifiable and the size of such a deal that will qualify for the exemption. SIB is understood to favour a deal no smaller than 10 times the normal market size, which has argued for greater or about a quarter of the average daily volume in a stock. There is still debate about how big a deal must be before pub-



New horizons: (from left) Liberty group managing director lan Thomson, Denis Cassidy, chairman, Andrew Garety, finance director, discussing plans to develop the upmarket retailer's Regent Street flagship store. The proposed £40m development will increase the shop's trading space by around 50 per cent.

Telefonica signs deal with BT

Chris Godsmark

Telefonica, Spain's main telephones company, yesterday announced a tie-up with British Telecom and its US partner, MCI, which is a big blow for the international ambitions of AT&T. The Spanish carrier had been the largest member of AT&T's European alliance grouping, called Unisource. AT&T's chief executive, John

Walter, had personally inter-vened with Juan Villalonga, chairman of Telefonica, to try to prevent the Spanish carrier joining with BT. Telefonica has a unique prize

for BT and MCI, soon to merge

best opportunity to exploit one Unisource immediately. He said of the world's fastest-growing talks would start on Monday markets.

Telefonica has 10 million phone lines in Latin America and almost 900,000 mobile customers. The Spanish carrier has a 25 per cent shareholding in Unisource, alongside PTT of the Netherlands, Telia of Sweden and Swiss Telecom PTT

yesterday proved fruitless. As Mr Villalonga was giving a presentation at an official signing ceremony in Madrid with Sir Iain Vallance, BT chairman. his partners in Unisource issued a statement asking Telefonica to

Attempts to limit the damage

leave the alliance.

phones companies in Argenti-na, Peru and Chile, giving it the Telefonica would have to quit whether Unisource would rewith partners: "We will jointly analyse the different implications over the next few days." Unisource said the deal be-

tween Telefonica and Concert was incompatible with its existing alliances. Lars Berg, Unisource chairman, said; "It will lead to customer confusion and will slow down the opening of the European communications market."

It was unclear last night whether the dispute would end in legal action. Unisource said legal consequences were being sorted out. Telefonica insisted its Unisource agreement had Earlier Mr Villalonga had not been violated.

place Telefonica with the Italian state-owned phone network, Stet. Sir Iain appeared to emphatically rule out Stet joining with BT as well. He said: "That would be straining the concept of competition. It would be hard for the European Com-mission to swallow."

The scope of the BT/Telefonica deal was wider than expected. BT will buy 2 per cent of the Spanish carrier within a year for £280m, while Telefonica will acquire 1 per cent of BT for the same price. In addition, BT and MCI have the option to buy 10 per cent of Telefonica's international business, Tisa, the vehicle through which it owns its stakes in Latin America.

dio division after the family win three big orders.

Racal warning on profits shocks City

Michael Harrison

Loughborough University, said it had been struck by the bal-

ance and strength of the Inde-

pendent's economics coverage, led by the economics editor Di-

ane Coyle and supported by the columists Hamish McRae and

Gavyn Davies. The judges also applauded the paper's "high

scoop content", its coverage of

important City stories such as

the Peter Young affair and its

campaigns on issues including

the privatised utilities and

Professor Morison added that

the visual impact and balance

of the business section re-in-

forced its reputation as a news-

share buy-backs.

Shares in Racal Electronics slumped 12 per cent yesterday as the group shocked the City by issuing its second profits warning in the space of six

The group, led by Sir Ernest Harrison, chairman, cautioned nared with a market expectation of £50m because of second half-losses in its data products division.

Racal said the that the losses would be in the region of £7m compared with expectations that the division would record a modest profit. The losses stem from the delayed launch of a new product aimed at the telecoms market which provides a fast data link between computers.

The profit warning sent Racal shares tumbling from 277p to 243.5p, wiping £95m off the company's stock market value. Last November the shares shumped by 25 per cent after Racal warned of losses in its radio division after the failiure to

ing market picks up."

Jonathan Loynes, an economist at HSBC Markets, said:

"Mortgage demand has slack-

ened in the run-up to the elec-

tion. People are worried about

where mortgage rates are going."
Other bank lending was

stronger than expected, al-

The picture was complicated

by transactions in the gilts repo

David Elsbury, Racal's chief executive, described the profits warning as a "hiccup" and pledged that the division had now passed its transition phase and was starting to deliver. Of the £7m loss, £5m is due

to extra research and development spending while a further £2m is a trading loss caused by that profits for the year just end- delay in bringing the new proded would be around £40m com- uct - known as fast-frame relay to the market.

Justinian Clifford Bowes of Crédit Lyonnais said that Racal's target of returning the data products division to profit after a first half loss of £12m had always been "somewhat ambitious". He added that the key challenge still facing the group was its relatively poor lev-el of profitability and expectations that Sir Ernest would have to take further measures to boost shareholder returns in

what is his last year with Racal. But Mr Elsbury said there was no question of any further break up of the group following the sale of the Chubb security divisaid that the business was worth well in excess of the City's esti-mated 350p break-up value.

The British Bankers' Associ-

ation reported a £5.6bn in-

February's record £1.4bn. Cred-

securities dealers.

Star Mining chief in talks to save stake in Russian gold

John Willcock

Rudolph Agnew has been holding orgent talks in Russia in his capacity as chairman of Star Mining, an Australia-based company, to save the business's stake in Russia's biggest ever gold deposit. Mr Agnew, chairman of Las-

mo, separately became chair-man of Star Mining on 1 September 1995, when he succeeded the retiring chairman, Neville Wran. Star Mining owns 34.9 per

cent of Sukhoi Log, a gold de-posit near lake Baikal in Siberia which has resources of over 30 million troy ounces. Star was

hoping to manage the \$1bn (£600m) development of Sukhoi Log, but has hit legal problems in Russia. terday. "This one has been brewing for years. Its a question of whether Western capital can get into Russia and out again or not." Local courts ruled this month

that the old Soviet co-operative Lenzoloto (Lena Gold), which originally worked Sukhoi Log, was incorrectly privatised in was incorrectly privatised in 1992. The Supreme Arbitration Court ruled that employees should have been offered shares The ruling's implications are

suspension of Star's shares in Sydney earlier this month.

in the mine, a normal part of the Russian privatisation process. unclear, but resulted in the

"Its a hell of a mess," said one mining analyst in the City yes-

STOCK MARKETS

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7085.16 5032.94 1.94

into Russia and out again or not." Mercury Asset Management

and other London institutions have stakes in Star via their mining funds. Star is receiving help from JCI, a big South African

The legal setback also casts a shadow over other privatisations in the former Soviet Union where Western enterprises have bought in. Many such privatisations may now face court challenges by former workers, according to Russian

Honey Market Rates

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Mortgage lending slackens on rate fears



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The fear of an increase in interest rates after the election slowed mortgage lending by banks and building societies last month and led to a slight dip in consumer confidence. But the high street banks reported the biggest rise in their total lend-The hesitation in the housing

market would not reduce the pressure for a rise in base rates. analysts said. The latest batch of monetary statistics showed that broad money growth, which has alarmed the Bank of England, was still well above target and accelerating. New lending by building so-

cieties dipped to £995m in moderate and that spring is tra-March from £1.1bn the previditionally a time when the hous-overseas banks. ous month. It is at the same level as a year ago. The amount approved in March was slightly down on a year earlier and the number of approvals were the same as in March 1996.

The high street banks also reported a slight dip in mortgage lending from £780m to £755m. But this remained 21 per cent higher than a year earlier and well above the recent monthly average, suggesting the banks gained market share last month. Adrian Coles, director gen-

eral of the Building Societies Association, said the housing market recovery remained on track. But, he said: "It is worth noting that the recovery remains

though not as high as the monster totals for January and February. Total lending by banks and building societies was £4.5bn in March, down from £7.8bn the previous

Vertically Change Year Ago \$ (Landon) 1,6221 -0.33c 1.5085 \$ (N York) 1.5245 -0.10c 1.5097 DM (Landon) 2.8040 _-1.43p(__2.2737 * (London) 204,060 -YI 285 163,267 E Index 99.7 -0.4 83.6

£ (London) 0.6165 +0.13 0.6629 £ (N York) ± 0.6156 +0.04 0.6624 DM (London) 1.7286 -0.53pt 1.5073

¥ (London) 125.800 -₹0.535 108.235 \$ ledex 106.0 -0.1 96.8 Vestpring Day's old Year Ago Index Latest Yr Ago Mont Figs 155.0 2.7 150.9 16 Apr 109.7+2.6pc 107.0 25 Apr Oil Brent 5 17.63 -0.06 19.12 RPI 343.05 +2.7 291.45 210.60 -0.78 259.50

Dealers predict A&L will start at 528p

ting yesterday that shares in Alceeded the top end of the liance & Leicester would start spread. trading as high as 528p when man. That would mean that 250 the 1.1 million members of the former building society, each of whom has been allocated 250 windfall worth £1,300 each.

Stock market dealers were bet- win money only if the price ex-

Shortly before IG Index's dealings officially begin on dealings closed some sell orders appeared, backing an opening appeared, backing an opening price below 520p and the spread was lowered slightly to 518p-526p. At 518p the individual windfalls would still be worth free shares, were looking at a £1,295 a head. But the real action will be in the stock market IG Index, the City book- and much depends on the outmakers, raised their spread of prices from the overnight 494p-502p to 520-528p, and still attracted a steady flow of "buy" orders from dealers who would on the outcome of the three stage auction of 157 million shares put up for immediate sale by members who want to sell their shares for whatever they will fetch.

Scottish foot learts gets P

crease in its lending last month, the highest since its figures be-gan in 1991. Much of the increase was new lending to financial companies, especially Personal lending remained above £1bn but was down from it card lending was half the pre-vious month's level, at £115m.

Separate figures showed a dip in consumer confidence in April. The monthly survey for the European Commission by GfK showed less optimism market. Last month there about household finances and seems to have been a repo-re- the general economic situation.

مكذا من الأعل



Mr Regan's caper doesn't deserve to succeed

who wants to break up the Co-op, but my Lopinion of him soared on hearing that at the ripe old age of 31, he already has a family of five children. Plainly this is not quite the BMW-driving, bimbo on each arm, 1980s stereotype the Co-operative Wholesale Society would like to imagine. Whether this makes Mr Regan any more of a serious or fit and proper player in this increasingly bizarre and farcical escapade is a different

The Co-operative Wholesale Society has been in gentle, and in some parts not so gentle, decline for so long now that it perhaps fully deserves to be thrown to the wolves. Nonetheless, every time Mr Regan suffers a setback, as he undoubtedly did yesterday, I feel an irresistible urge to punch the air in

This is not just a case of support for the underdog, if indeed the Co-op can fairly be described as that in this battle of the upstart against a 100-year-old tradition. Rather it is to do with a sense of revulsion for what he is trying to do - plunder assets and reserves built up over generations for his own shortterm gain and that of his friends in the City. There is a bad smell about this adventure, right down to the news-managed way in which Lanica's various twists and turns are selectively leaked to the media. There

calculation that Mr Regan has made is that though we may think of him as an asset stripper and a Mr Nasty, it doesn't really matter. There appear to be no good public policy reasons for stopping him. Even the Labour Party, with its 16 Co-op-sponsored MPs, would be hard pressed to find one. And if the truth be known, many of the CWS's 300 corporate members would dearly like Mr Regan's money. In some cases it would be enough to refinance their businesses.

The audacity of Mr. Regan's plan defies

belief. But for the Co-op's legal spanner in the works, he would yesterday morning have been unveiling a £1.2bn fully underwritten bid. Buyers have been lined up for all the Co-op's various bits and pieces apart from the insurance business, which would have been left with members as a rump interest. Allied Irish Bank would have bought the Coop Bank, so as to get round any problem the Bank of England might have had with Mr Regan and his merry men, and there were equally impressive partners waiting in the

wings for everything else.

For the time being this grand design is stalled. By court order Mr Regan is prevented from making use of any of the con-fidential information he might have obtained appears no substance or purpose behind it, I from his various spies in the movement.

bankers have to tread warily. It may well be that they now cannot proceed until the court order is lifted.

If and when that hurdle is surmounted,

there are others that lie waiting just round the bend. The Co-op is accusing two of its senior executives of colluding with Mr Regan and giving him confidential information. Secret meetings in car parks, private eyes, logged telephone calls – intrigue on this scale may be more the stuff of thrillers than the real world, but it is also meat and drink to the courts and casts severe doubt on the in-tegrity of this bid. Certainly Mr Regan's lawyers will want to make absolutely certain that no part of the offer, or the various side deals with partners, is based on stolen in-

This is not the only risk to Mr Regan and his supporters. To date Mr Regan has managed to limit his costs very effectively. But these rise exponentially the moment he pulls the trigger. As a result they may already have risen through the £10m mark, which is quite a gamble for such an uncertain outcome. Even if Mr Regan is right, and it is possible to unlock the Co-op's hidden wealth, there would seem to be a very high possibility of a rival proposal, or of the Co-op doing the exercise itself. Mr Regan may

formation.

That do the Independent's business pages stand for? Given that we have just won the Wincott award as financial journal of the year, I might perhaps be excused a little self-indulgence in attempting to answer this question.

In its ten-and-a-half years on the news stands the Independent has tried to stick broadly to the same set of guiding principles in its business coverage. Someone once described us as Thatcherite economics but with a social conscience. While we wouldn't accept that description in its entirety, it's a reasonable cariciature. Along the way there have been some errors of judgement, as well as some straying from the path of righteousness. But on the whole the approach has been consistently pro-business, pro-free mar-ket (in capital and labour), pro-competition and (here's something Mrs Thatcher would-

n't approve of) pro-European. By the same token we are naturally anti monopoly in all its guises, and anti abuse of commercial and market power. While supportive of British commercial interests, our outlook is essentially international and we

don't like Little Englander tendencies. We believe that on the whole business enterprise, commerce and markets should

ve never met Andrew Regan, the man outside money making, and it doesn't who wants to break up the Co-op, but my opinion of him soared on hearing that at outside money making, and it doesn't deserve to succeed.

Since the bid and its delicately balanced have started the ball rolling, but can be really expect to reap the rewards? I find it hard to believe he can.

Have started the ball rolling, but can be really expect to reap the rewards? I find it hard to believe he can. ing them. That is not to say that we are sycophantically in favour of everything that business does. We like to think of ourselves as combative and campaigning, and we cer-tainly don't stand in awe of business and the City, or their leaders. Quite a lot of what businesses and markets do is silly, indefensible and destructive. It is part of our purpose to expose humbug, corruption, abuse

and other forms of try on when we see it. Warts and all, however, we believe in the free market system as a force for good, dynamic change, revitalisation and cathar-sis in society as well as the best method yet discovered for creating wealth. If all this sounds unnervingly like New Labour, let it there long before Thay Blair. Indeed so much of what the *Independent* got there long before Thay Blair. Indeed so much of what the *Independent* stands for on economics and business is now so widely accepted, internationally as well as across the domestic political divide, that there is a perverse inclination to believe it may be time to move on and establish an entirely new agenda. Only kidding. The triumph of the businessman's view of the world in so much of public policy is one of the most striking features of late 20th Century history. In our own small way, we have been a part of that

Anglian makes provisions on joint venture in Brazil

Michael Harrison and Chris Godsmark

Anglian Water yesterday confirmed it would be making provisions against losses on a joint venture in Brazil less than a month after denying it was experiencing any problems on the project.

In a statement issued to the Stock Exchange, Anglian said it had conducted a full analysis of its international business and overseas strategy and the outcome and any related provisions would be announced along with its preliminary results in May.

A spokesman later confirmed the provision, expected to be in the region of £15m, would cover some of its operations in Brazil, where it is involved in a E30m waste treatment project in the south of the country with a joint venture partner. CeAnglian takes legal action in Brazil

disclosed that Anglian was tak- had signed a bank draft made ing legal action in Brazil after running into problems on the high-profile joint venture involving its international arm. A core any lost money.

company employee based in Yesterday it said Mr Mellor Brazil has returned to Britain and is on "gardening leave".

According to reports circu-lating in the industry, Anglian paid up to £12m into the bank account of an individual in Brazil and is now trying to recover the money.

At the time a spokesman said he was not aware the company had lost any money and the company would not be making any provisions because "we haven't lost any cash".

Last month The Independent financial director, Chris Mellor, out to the account of an individual in Brazil or that it had hired private investigators to re-

> and Anglian's company secretary did sign off the financing for the deal but the cheque was made out to a company, not an individual. A spokesman saidAnglian had not hired any private detectives but he was unable to say whether any lawyers acting on its behalf had done so.

The Anglian employee who was working in Brazil, Peter Cashen, refused to comment when contacted at his Northamptonshire home last month. There is no suggestion that

Mr Cashen or Cejen were involved in the disappearance of

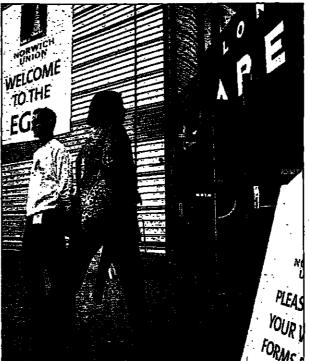
The Cejen partnership was singled out in Anglian's last annual report as an example of its Brazilian ambitions.

However, one senior water industry figure in Brazil said there were rumours that the partnership with Cejen had ended and that the official opening ceremony of the treatment works had been post-

It proved impossible to contact Cejen at its offices in the city of Curitiba, in the southern state of Santa Catarina. The company spokesman denied that the venture itself had

become bogged down.

Norwich Union flotation approved



Thumbs up: Policyholders attending an egm at the London Arena, Docklands, yesterday gave overwhelming support to Norwich's proposed flotation. The vote means 1.8 million with-profit policyholders will get free shares worth an average £1,000

Italian

setback

on EMU

Italy's prospects of joining EMU in the first wave in 1999

appeared dented this week.

There were reports of a Fran-

co-German pact to exclude it

from monetary union in 1999

and adverse comments from the

European Monetary Institute.

the forerunner of the European

Central Bank, writes Chris

Italian newspaper reports said Germany had persuaded

France to agree to exclude Italy on the grounds that correc-

tions to its budget were cos-

metic. Many Germans fear the

euro would be weaker than the

Deutschmark if Italy joined in

1999. The reports suggested that Germany had threatened

to delay the entire project.
Alison Cottrell of Paine Web-

ber said the Italian electorate

was being softened up for the

news that Italy would not be tak-ing part in 1999. While Ger-

many is keen to exclude Italy

from the first wave, it may not qualify itself. However, according to Michael Lewis of Deutsche Manager Committee of the control of the contr

Deutsche Morgan Grenfeil,

officials were this week talking

about calculating Germany's

Spot CIF NW Europe

BC Gasof

IN BRIEF

Car production increases by 13%

UK car production rose a seasonally adjusted 5.4 per cent in the six months ending March compared with the previous six months, and was up 13.4 per cent on the same period a year ago, according to the Office of National Statistics. In March, the seasonally adjusted index for total car production was 132, down from 133 in February. Production allocated for export rose by 3.1 per cent in the six months to March and rose 27.3 per cent on the same period a year ago. Car production for the domestic market rose by 8.3 per cent in the six months to March and was 0.1 per cent higher on the same period a year ago.

EU set to approve AAC's stake in Lonrho

European Union approval for Anglo American Corp to take a stake in Lonrho is set to be announced next Wednesday, after the South African mining giant agreed to scale back the size of its intended shareholding under pressure from Brussels. Commission officials confirmed that Anglo American offered to cut a 28.4 per cent shareholding in response to warnings that such a stake in Lonhro's platinum division would be in breach of the EU's competition rules. Karel Van Miert, competition commissioner, warned he would block a deal which allowed Anglo American and Lourho to control the price of platinum charged to European manufacturers. Anglo American is reducing its stake to just under 10 per cent, it is believed, although the Commission said it was not in a position to confirm the exact figure. Brussels, which has the power to vet all mergers which affect the EU market, last year blocked a planned merger between the platinum interests of South Africa's Gencor and Lonrho.

Northem Foods buys Scottish Pride UHT

Northern Foods has acquired the Scottish Pride UHT milk business for £8m from KPMG, the receivers. Scottish Pride UHT had sales in the year to 31 March of £30m. Northern Foods intends to retain and develop the processing facilities at Kirkcudbright, which will become part of Northern Dairies' UHT milk operations. The purchase includes all rights to the Scottish Pride brand.

Chemring shares crash on profit warning

The share price of Chemring, the engineering group, crashed from 185p to 122.5p on a warning it would lose close to £2m before exceptional charges of £8m in the six months to March 1996. That compares with with a pre-tax profit of £4.5m in the same period last year. The company expects to return to profit in the second half of the year, but at a lower level than last year, with a considerable reduction in full-year profit before tax and exceptional items likely. Sales in the first half will be about £31m, down from £40.9m. The trading performance of Chemring's UK-based defence businesses continues to be affected by the deferment of defence orders, its specialist clothing division is experiencing trading difficulties, and the company has closed its pyrotechnic and explosives division's firework operation.

Beales Hunter forecasts downturn

Beales Hunter warned that pre-tax profits for the year to 31 May would fall short of market expectations, sending shares in the electrical equipment company down from 149p to 126p. It attributed the lower forecast to intensified pressure on margins resulting from a significant decline in national refrigeration contractors sales to major food retailers. Despite the downturn, Beales intends to recommend an unchanged final dividend of 7.8p net per

Peek Holdings warms of interim losses

Shares in Peek Holdings, the UK data and communications company, dived from 75.5p to 44p after it said it was expecting in-terim losses of £1.5m, a sharp contrast to the £4m of profits made in the same period last year. The company blamed a slowdown in a deferment of government funding for some of its clients worldwide. It said it was unlikely that much of the first-half shortfall would be recovered by the year end. Its traffic businesses in the Netherlands, US and UK expected flat sales and a significant re-duction in gross profit margin for the first six months of 1997. Acquisitions and investment in technology had lifted costs and margins would be hit by slower-than-expected progress on longer-term contracts where profit was realised at a late stage.

Scottish football club Hearts gets full listing

Magnus Grimond

Heart of Midlothian, one of Scotland's oldest football clubs, is to become the first from north of the border to obtain a full stock market listing in a placing which will raise £5.06m.

However, the £14m valuation being put on the club, traditionally supported by Edinburgh's Protestant community. is some way below hopes it would be valued at up to £20m. It comes just a day after in-

Midlands-based Aston Villa Robinson, the Wheatsheaf would be valued at £126m by its float, in the middle of forecasts. But analysts said they were not surprised to see the valuation coming down in the wake of the

increasing number of football clubs coming to market and the fall in their share prices. Hearts' advisers, stockbroker Williams de Broc, described the 140p-ashare placing price for the new shares, nearly 39 per cent of the enlarged capital, as "realistic". It will still bring a windfall for vestors warmed to news that the the chief executive. Chris

Woburn in £5.7m deal

Woburn Golf and Country Club, one of the UK's top golf clubs, looks almost guaranteed to host a major European golf tournament next year and will see a third championship level course developed following a £5.75m deal announced vesterday, PGA European Tour Courses, a company backed by the governing body of European golf and Mark McCormack, the sports promoter, is taking a half share in the club in exchange

For the latest foreign evenange rates call 0891 123 3033

for a payment of £750,000 to a trust controlled by Woburn's developer, the Marquess of Tavistock, and a £5m injection of cash. The course boasts 1,000 members paying less than £1,000 a year. PGA European, which has stakes in seven European courses, said it would become its flagship operation, eventually rivalling Wentworth as the UK's top non-member-

catering entrepreneur who with Leslie Deans, the chairman, took control of the club in 1994. Their combined stake, acquired for £2m, will be worth £6.4m after the stock market launch, although neither is selling any shares.

The money being raised will e used to finance a £2.97mstand at the club's Tyncastle Park stadium in Edinburgh, the last part of an £8m development. The new accommodation at the Gorgie Road end, traditional home of Hearts fans, will seat 3,450, taking to-tal capacity to 18,300, and incomorate corporate hospitality conference and banqueting facilities. Mr Robinson said Tyncastle would become the third-best ground in Scotland, after those of Celtic and Rangers, and would incomorate a £238,000 pitch heating system to reduce the number of games

cancelled by bad weather. The prize for Hearts is a new television deal to replace theagreement between all the Scottish clubs and BSkyB, the BBC and Scottish Television currently worth £16m over four

Who will be in EMU? The financial markets' view . - **- - - - - - - - - -**

TOWARDS EMU: If the line moves towards the German base line it means knyesto: o longer require such a high premium for holding that country's b erman ones, because they are confident the curredcy won't dev Mark. In other words, they think that country will be locked into a single currency with

AWAY FROM EMU: However, if they think the country won't be in EMU, that it will have higher inflation, and that there is a risk of a future devaluation against the Mari

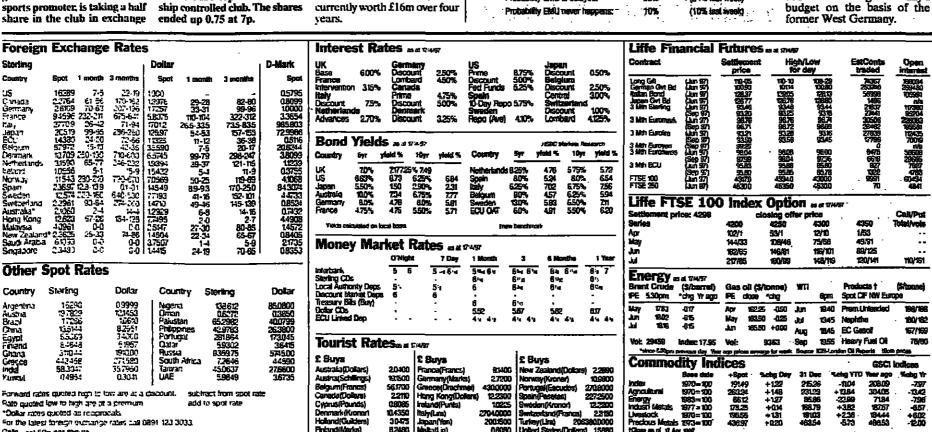
When will EMU start? The City Analysts' View.

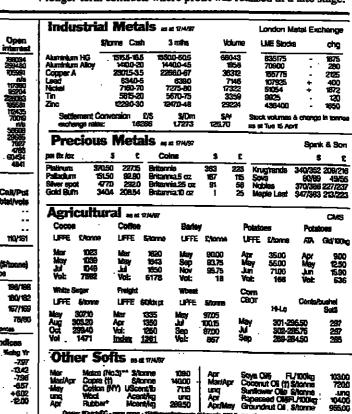
The Independent asked analysis from: Nikio Europe, Paine Webber, ABN Amro, JP Morgan, Destschi Salostan Brothers, Geldman Sacks, HSSC James Capel, USS what probability they placed on EMU starting on time.

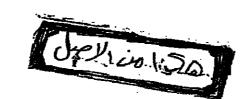
23%

Probability EMU is delayed: ...

(24% last week)







ahead of Monday's fascinating

flotation of the former Al-

liance & Leicester Building So-

Racal Electronics was the

biggest and most famous to

blow a fuse. Its shares plunged

33.5p to 243.5p after it admit-

ted profits in the year ended

last month would be "in excess"

of £40m. There had been

Chemring, once a high-fly-ing electronic group which

touched 451p last year, fell

62.5p to 122.5p after warning

of a loss, before exceptionals.

of "not more than" £2m in the

hopes it would hit £70m.

Data Bank FTSE 100 4310.5 FTSE 250 7.2 4517.7 FTSE 350

2121.5 SEAQ VOLUME 679.3m shares, 39.567 bargains

Share spotlight



Electric profits warnings dull any surge in Footsie

A quartet of electric profit balf year ending last month. It warnings unsettled shares. expects to make profits in the Footsie struggled for most of current six months. the session, ending with a Peek, yet another electronmodest 11.6 points gain to

ic group, lost 31.5p of its value to 44p after forecasting a six-month loss of around £1.5m. Its The surge of cautionary shares have fallen from 130p comments, unusually strong even by the usual Friday level, in the past year. was hardly the sort of prelude

The sparks were also flying at Beales Hunter. It said profthe stock market would seek its would fall short of market estimates which were around £3m. The shares dimmed 23p Away from the faltering

electrical sector, banks and brewers inspired Footsie. Standard Chartered, still reflecting kind words from reticent investment house Schroders, added a further 27p to 892p. Bank of Scotland, figures next week, and Lloyds

TSB were also pulled higher. Breweries were helped by comments the sector was oversold. Scottish & Newcastle frothed 14.5p higher to 675p.

MARKET REPORT

DEREK PAIN

But cider maker Matthew Zeneca was given yet another takeover whirl. In late Clark remained subdued foltrading the shares jumped 48p lowing the HSBC James Capel to 1,834p. Once again it was the Swiss which were rumoured to caution. The shares fell 7p to 289p; they have lost 45.5p this he about to strike. Roche was week. PDFM, with 23 per cent, said to be finalising plans to launch a hostile offer on Monis the biggest shareholder. Tesco shrugged off Nikko's

negative comment, ending 6.5p higher at 360.5p. Drugs had another active session. Shield Diagnostic fell 32.5p to 562.5p after rolling out a surprise cash-raising exercise. It pulled in £2.9m by placing shares at 530p with institutions. climbed 32.5p to 1,010p but cautious comments disturbed

PPL Therapentics, off 40p at

stock market reporter of the year It suggests the shares could be

> day.
> The market is always on edge about Zeneca; it is convinced that one day the group, with an enviable drugs pipeline, will collect a bid. But even by

Zeneca standards the latest speculation lacked conviction. BT's link with Telefonica lifted the shares 2p to 444.5p and Northern Ireland Electricity enjoyed SBC Warburg support, up 11p at 391p.

Rentokil Initial slipped 2.5p rating than is currently being attached to the stock." to 401.5p as NatWest Securities said sell. It lowered its profit estimates because of

sterling's strength and a "sharp slowdown" in the core operations in its second half year. But the investment house was more kind to the P&O property and shipping group.

worth up to 715p. They rose just 0.5p to 609.5p. Societe Generale Strauss Turnbull did not have much better luck with Tomkins. It said shares of the buns to guns conglomerate were a buy, forecasting a sharp profits advance to £515m in the year ending this month with £565m likely

Analyst Andy Chambers said: "Whilst some of the bug-bears that continue to dog Tomkins are not expected to be resolved in the near term, the company's earnings and cash records warrant a far higher

But the price of the last of the conglomerates still proud to be one was unmoved at

A sudden bout of Friday nerves hit Sunderland, one of the Premiership clubs strug-gling against relegation. With unquoted West Ham

Utd saying the drop could cost it more than £5m the market started to fret over Sunderland's clash with local rivals and fellow strugglers, Middlesbrough; the shares fell 22.5p to 495p. They have, during their brief market life, been as high as 760p.

Turnpyke, the engineer which has attracted the attention of ex-Suter chief David Abell, added 1.25p to 20.25p and Optometrics, the optical equipment group, firmed to 26p following the arrival of a consortium led by solicitor Pe-

Share Price Data

Taking Stock

Chesterton International, the estate agent and surveyor, improved 5.5p to 69.5p despite an increased interim loss of £3.3m. Director share baying provided the spur. After the figures were known four directors, including chairman Sir William Wells and new chief executive Michael Holmes, picked up 115,000 shares at 60p. With the property market improving Chesterton's problems should be over. But the shares are still less than half the price achieved last year.

☐ Howie, an engineer, held at 31.5p although stockbro-ker Teather & Greenwood recommends "early purchase of these undervained shares". It believes profits will be £900,000 this year, rising to £1.2m next. Analyst Adrian Murray says Howle aims to develop into "a substantial engineering concern".

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Prices are in starting except where stated. The yield is lest year's dividend, grossed up by Prices are in starting except where stated. The price/earnings (P/E) ratio is the share 20 per cent, as a percentage of the share price. The price/earnings (P/E) ratio is the share price divided by last year's earnings per share, excluding exceptional items. Other details: xr Ex rights x Ex-dividend xa Ex all u Unissed Securities Market's Suspended pp Perity Paid pm NF Paid Shares. ‡ AM Stock Anyone with a time-diel telephone can use this service. For a detailed description of independent index, including its portfolio facility, phone 0891 123 For assistance, call our helpine 0171 873 4378 (900em - 500pm). Ca

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Evans 'in limbo' at Saracens

Rugby Union CHRIS HEWETT

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Blood on the walls at Saracens, rampant neurosis at Leicester and Harlequins, acute auxiety at Wasps. Full-time rugby may have seemed like a barrel of laughs last autumn as scores of newly professionalised players stretched out on the physio's couch and pondered ways of spending their money, but the novelty is fast wearing off now that payback time has arrived with a vengeance.

It is not much fun for the coaches either, especially those charged with securing some sort of return on the multi-million pound investments of their employers. As Mark Evans and Rob Cunningham discovered after Saracens' defeat at Sale on Tuesday - a result that erased any lingering hope the Londoners may have harboured of a lucrative place in next season's Heineken Cup - business is business.

Saracens' decision to give François Pienaar a free hand as player-coach leaves Evans in limbo. He remains director of rugby - "contractually speaking, my position hasn't changed," he said yesterday - but with South Africa's World Cup-winning captain now calling all the shots that matter, the chain of command has been turned on its officials tomorrow to discuss his revised role.

Cunningham, meanwhile, has relinquished his part-time assistant coaching role at Enfield - a venue Sarries may soon abandon in favour of a groundshare at Watford football cluband is now seeking pastures new. "Until now, my outside business interests have prevented me from committing myself wholly to rugby, but I'm now ins suggested the Pontypridd keen to get involved somewhere on a full-time basis," said the former Bath and Scotland A hook-

Leicester today: Welford Road is an awkward enough propo-sition for a side in the pink, let alone one in the mire. But the Tigers, weakened by injuries to Austin Healey, Joel Stransky, Will Greenwood and Stuart Potter, are still reeling from three defeats in a week and are uncomfortably aware that a place in Europe is by no means a certainty. By contrast, Sarries are at full strength for the first

Quins, meanwhile, do their Christians in the Colosseum bit at Kingsholm, where Glouceslet are proving rather less gen-erous-spirited than the average Roman gladiator. "We'll be at battle stations," admitted Dick Best, the Quins coach. Gloucester drop Mike Peters from the right wing and play Andley Lumsden there instead, while Jason Leonard returns to captain the visitors.

time in more than a month.

Given the astronomical odds against Orrell, the bottom club, winning at Bath this afternoon, it is most unlikely that Wasps can tie up the Courage league title by beating Sale at Loftus Road

Indeed, Lawrence Dallaglio's side will be hard-pressed to win anyway, thanks to the extraordinary team spirit developed by John Mitchell since his switch from Waikato to Cheshire. If Sale leave Shepherds Bush with head. Evans will meet with club the points. Wasps would have to win at Northampton and Harlequins to make sure of the championship.

> In Wales, Arwel Thomas was hopeful of returning to Swansea's title-chasing side at Newbridge this afternoon following surgery on the knee ligaments he damaged eight weeks ago. There was good news for the Lions, too, after the latest medical bulletin on Neil Jenkcaptain was close to a full recovery from a broken left arm. Geoff Cooke, the former



Mark Richardson has to mix working in the family ice cream business and playing rugby for his club, Aspatria, and county, Cumbria

Richardson ready to make ripples at HQ

Mark Richardson clocks on at 6am to start his working day in an ice cream factory in Egremont. Today he clocks on at 3pm at Twickenham - but the 80 minutes of graft ahead of him will be no working shift.

The County Championship final has survived as an anachronism in rugby union's new age. Richardson could not put a price on the pride that will flush through his 6ft 4in, 19st frame when he becomes the first man to lead Cumbria on to Billy Williams' cabbage patch.

In tangible terms, the captain and his team will receive nothing more than a blazer, a tie and best-ever top four finish in 1993. has signed a four-year contract at studmarks of Martin Johnson, On the face of it, then, Sar-Bedford to become the club's fullries could do without a visit to time chief executive from July.

best-ever top four finish in 1993. has signed a four-year contract at studmarks of Martin Johnson, Pienaar, captain of the World a £200,000-a-year, man in the Cup winners, South Africa.

"We won as well," Richardson side club was still known in those row, where his brother, David, ries could do without a visit to time chief executive from July. professional era.

volved," Richardson said yes-terday. "But that has never concerned us. It means an awful lot to play at Twickenham.

"There is still a place in rugby for the county championship. Ourselves and Somerset will enjoy our day." At 35, Richardson has played two decades of senior rugby to reach the Mecca of English

rugby. He has finally made it, ironically, just a month after his first representative honour. The No 8 known in Cumbria

as "Tank" played for the Bar-barians at Leicester. Richardson, captain of Aspatria, was a

"There is no money in- Simon Turnbull meets Cumbria's captain for today's County Championship final

> pointed out. "To get to play against Dean Richards and then to play at Twickenham, it's been a good couple of months for Richardson has spent all but three of his rugby-playing years in Cumbria. A debutant in the

> Egremont first team at 15, he played alongside Fran Cotton and Steve Smith for Sale in the 1980-81 season but tired of the lone, late night drag up the M6 after training.

> He spent two years travelling

BC days (Before Cash, or before Sir John Hall's at least). But

Richardson's heart, like his home, has always been in England's top north-west corner. He returned to Egremont - where he works in his family's ice cream business - and joined Aspatria when they graduated to national league level seven years ago.

It might have been different. Richardson could have been among the paid ranks – the may affect our support but openly paid ranks – before I would think there will still be

a member of the Great Britain finals, neither of which came amateur team, became a professional. "David chose rugby league," Mark said, "and I gates, though the hearts of the chose to go the other way."

That way leads the union man in the Richardson family to Twickenham today for part one of Cumbria's weekend invasion of the capital. Carlisle United are at Wembley tomorrow for the final of the Auto Windscreens Shield. "Hopefully Cumbria will be

a ghost county for the next two Richardson said. "Carlisle getting to Wembley least 20,000 in total at Twickenham. That would be a vast im-

RFU would have doubtless been as full as the stands and the coffers had Cumbria's semifinal success against Comwall at Redruth not scuppered the invasion plans of Trelawney's

Having survived the brim-stone of Hell Fire Corner, Cumbria must fancy their chances of updating the history books today.
"If you look in the records,"

Richardson said, "we won the final as, Cumberland, against Kent at Carlisle in 1924. only win was in 1923. So, on most recent form, we should be provement on the past two the winners."

Rolph fails to make impression

Swimming

Susan Rolph finished sixth in a second successive final at the World Short Course Championships in Sweden last night.

The 18-year-old Newcastle swimmer repeated her performance in the 100 metres in the 50m final, clocking 25.41sec. 0.09sec outside her British record. Germany's Sandra Volker followed up her victory over 100m, winning in 24.70. Richard Maden missed out

on a medal by his fingertips as he was beaten into fourth place in the 100m breaststroke but had the consolation of recording a personal best.

The Rochdale swimmer, who qualified for his first major final with the fifth fastest time, was just edged out by the favourite, Jens Kruppa of Germany, who had to settle for bronze.

Maden clocked 1:00.32, reducing his best by 0.08sec, compared to Kruppa's 1:00.18 as Sweden's Patrik Isaksson (59.99) powered home from the outside lane to take a surprise gold medal.

Earlier in the heats Adam Ruckwood broke his own British 200m backstroke record to qualify for the final. The reigning Commonwealth Games champion at the distance sliced 0.37sec off the mark he set in Sheffield last year when winning his heat in 1:55.63.

The 4 x 200m freestyle relay squad of Andrew Clayton, Gavin Meadows, Mark Stevens and James Salter broke the British record by nearly seven seconds with a mark of 7:11.13. Results, Digest, page 31

TODAY'S NUMBER 37 billion

The projected size of the cumulative television audience for the 64 matches in next summer's World Cup finals in France - more than twice the number who watched last year's Olympics in Atlanta.

Urgency is absent from both sides

Cricket

CRAIG COZIER reports from Georgetown, Guyana India 194-2 v West Indies

Heavy overnight and morning rain washed out the second day's play in the fifth and final Test between the West Indies and India here at the Bourda

JON CULLEY

Lancashire 482

reports from Headingley

Yorkshire 289 and 298

After the chaotic scenes in

other parts of Leeds yesterday

morning, Headingley must have

appeared more than usually

caim to the players of Lan-cashire, who left behind the

drama unfolding on the

doorstep of their city-centre hotel to move within sight of vic-

Not that it counts for a great

deal. If there is a debate over the

first-class status of the university

games, the awarding of that dis-

tinction to this fixture must also

be questioned. The public, so

thinly represented here that

counting them has not been an

exercise too taxing, certainly seemed to have seen it for the

gentle warm-up it has become.

principals absent, the contest

was barely more than a second

XI meeting in any case. York-

shire, at least, will field a rather

different line-up, including their

new Australian signing, Darren Lehmann, when the sides meet

again in the Benson & Hedges

cant for one rare phenomenon:

a sighting outside his usual habitat of Yorkshire's reserve

wicketkeeper, Colin Chapman,

ford has been granted so few opportunities since his debut in

1990 that this was only his fifth

first-class appearance in eight

The 25-year-old from Brad-

Cup on Monday week. This match has been signifi-

With so many of each county's

tory in the Roses friendly.

vesterday. Play was ruled out with the outfield left sodden in some arweekend was only for more

India, after winning the toss, crawled to 194 for 2 on the opening day, Thursday. Rahul Dravid, the 24-year-old Karnataka batsman, was unbeaten 71, in the process reaching 1.000 runs in his 14th Test. His captain, Sachin Tendulkar, was 62 not out.

seasons and his first for five

years. Judging by the success of his return to action, one wonders

how he has put up with so little

But for Chapman, supported by the efforts of Gavin Hamil-

ton, Lancashire might have

been packed and away before

tea, the spoils of victory, such

as they are worth, in the bag.

senior activity.

eas by consistent showers. The

Patient Chapman

holds up Lancashire

skies remained grey and the in Antigua. There, the first forecast for the rest of the three days were abandoned

India, who trail 1-0 in the five-match series, were also frustrated by the weather in the fourth Test just over a week ago

because of rain and the match ended in a two-day stalemate. The visitors have a history of

woe in Guyana. Apart from their inaugural visit in 1953, and in 1971 when both matches were drawn, India have been able to get little action at the In 1962, they had to bypass

Guyana because of politically motivated violence between the two major races in the country, Africans and East Indians. On their fourth Caribbean tour, in 1976, rain Paul Reiffel said yesterday-fell so heavily in Georgetown he is considering retirement fell so heavily in Georgetown that the Test match was rescheduled for Port-of-Spain, Trinidad.

On the two previous Indian tours, in 1983 and 1989, both Tests in Guyana were spoiled by the weather. In 1983, two full days and a session were lost and a dull draw resulted.

Six years later, after the first two days, no further play was possible over the last four, even with the conversion of the rest day. The prospects for the next few days appear bleak.

after being dropped from the Australian squad for the upcoming Ashes tour of England. The seam bowler said he is reluctant to continue if his only option is to represent his state team, Victoria. Reiffel, 31 today, was left out of the 17-man Australian squad after being plagued by hamstring injuries on recent tours. Reiffel took 19 wickets in three Tests on the 1993 Ashes tour and his style is regarded as ideal for English

Wasim and Wagar to miss Test

ROUND-UP

Pakistan will be forced to cope without Wasim Akram and Wagar Younis, who have taken 538 Test wickets between them, for the first of the two Tests against Sri Lanka in Colombo tomorrow. Wasim is nursing an injured bowling arm, a result of excessive cricket, and Waqar has a fractured toe which has ruled him out of the tour. It means that Pakistan's new-

and Shahid Nazir. Wasim's re-

Tetley's Shloid

England A v The Rest

The Rest won loss ENGLAND A - First Innings

To men 2. 16.2 (West)

Fail: 1.237, 2.271.

To hat: "A J Holloube, M A Esiham, WW K Hegg,
P M Such, G Cheppis, A J Herre, D W Headley,
Booding (to detaip: Showwood 15-4-63-1; Brown
19-5-56 D; Tutor 15.2-4-63-1; Hollowies 9-1-45Q; Solonia 5-2-18-Q; Costar 14-2-36-0,
THE REST; J S Lursy, D L Maddy, C J Adems, "M
R Rempostach, B C Holloste, 'R J Warren, V S
Solarsk, D A Cotting, A J Tutor S J E Brown, C E
W Salarstood.

YOBYSHIRE - Risst landings 280 (B Parker 85 no., M I Wood 81, G Yatas 4-46). LANDASHIRE - Float landings 482 (G D Lloyd 225, I D Acatin 83).

First-class matches

Third day of four Yorkshire V Lancashire

VORKERURE – Second trainings (Overright: 34 for 1) M D Moutin & Fisipather b Filmoli

M D Mouon o Feicharcher b Filmoff
M J Wood law b Meeth
T Blees e Haynies b Green
R A Fertibloomagh law b Meeth
R B Perfer e Lloyd b Meeth
C A Chapman e Feicharcher b Mee
A G Wharf o Green b Waghlean
G M Hersillon Aun out

ball attack will consist of the in-experienced Mohammad Zahid They had Yorkshire in a seemingly hopeless position. With the dismissal of Bradley Parker to a catch in the covers as a lively Peter Martin claimed his third wicket, his side were 127 for 5, 66 short of making Lancashire bat again. Their prospects took another downward turn at 144 when Alex Wharf sliced Mike

Watkinson to deep third man. But Chapman dearly did not intend to squander his moment. Painstakingly at times, but with the occasional flourish, he compiled a three-hour maiden halfcentury that gave Yorkshire the unexpected satisfaction of going

to tea in front.

Hamilton, whose judgement of a single had always looked shaky, almost inevitably ran himself out - and on 49 to boot when he chanced an impossible run to the bowling of Gary Yates. Chapman, sensibly, would have none of it and both batsmen wound up at the same end.

Even so, the partnership had realised 94 and given Yorkshire a lead at that point of 45. Much to Lancashire's frustration, Chapman continued his innings until he was caught at slip off Martin for 80, leaving the visiting side still with something

for another fast bowler Mohammad Akram as Waqar's replacement, but have the knowledge that the new fast bowlers were responsible for an innings and 13 runs win over

New Zealand last November. Sri Lanka have included one newcomer, Russell Arnold, in their 15-man squad. Arnold, a left-hand batsmen who also bowls off-spin, beat Aravinda de Silva's record aggregate for a Sri Lankan domestic season in 1995-96. He will play if their opener, Roshan Mahanama, fails to recover from a chipped left toe.

placement as captain is Rameez Graeme Hick warmed up to place with 178 for Worcestershire on Monday. Pakistan have already called

against Somerset in a 50-over practice match at Taunton yes terday. Hick hit nine sixes, two of which went over extra cover off Andy Caddick, and 19 fours.

Warwickshire are confident that their new captain, Tim Munton, will be fit to lead his side in next Wednesday's Britannic Assurance County Championship opener against Glamorgan at Cardiff, despite recurrence of his back injury.

Munton, who missed half of the 1995 season because of a chronic back problem, was ruled out of yesterday's friendly against Nottinghamshire. Munton is expected to play in anrenew his challenge for a Test other friendly at Northampton

Third Test

West Indies v India

Bottes (n7 Int8 wt2 ris4) 240 (17 Int8 wt2 ri

Extrae (nt2) Total (for 0, 1.2 overs) To bai: M Keech, K D James, W S Kerden, P R Whiteler, 14 M Aymes, S D Udal, A D Mascaren Isse, C A Cornor, S M Meturn,

CRICKET SCOREBOARD

6 J Berty b Austrn 18 R D Steing b Austrn 16 M J Hoggerd not out 1 Extras (62 B14 H4 H22) 22 Trast (12.18.2 event) 296 Refs 1.22 2.30 3-47 4-79 5-127 6-144 7-238 (EDGBASTON): Regland A bave sound 272 for 2 in thisir Brat beings. Todays 11.0. 8-280 9-282. Bueling: Martin 30-9-53-4; Green 24-8-77-1; Firefit 10-8-11-1: Austin 25-3-8-55-2; Watten-son 10-3-32-1; Varia; 14-4-41-0; Technol 2-0-3-0. Float day of three

Cambridge Univ v Leic Cambridge University won 2003 LEICESTERSHIRE - Flost lookings V J Wells c House b P S Jones I J Syguide b R O Jones

Oxford University v Har THE PARKS: Hampstyre, with all first-innings wickers straight, are 236 runs behind Oxford University. Today: 11.30. Colori University von loss
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R D Hudson live to Connor
J E Haynes have Utility
G G R Lightfoot live to Mitham
"A A Wagin to James
B W Byrne law to James
B W Byrne law b James
L G G Lag Colorida
R Lightfoot Laws b Lightfoot
A G Estron C Whate b James

Potter sets pace

Sarah Potter, the former England cricketer and daughter of the playwright Dennis, opened the scoring in the fifth minute to send Colwall on their way to a 3-2 victory over Tulse Hill in the opening game of the women's Inter-League Playoffs at Milton Keynes yesterday.

With the 16-year-old Isabel Palmer dominant in defence, Colwall always had the edge, sending in Jane Hudson and Jackie Styles in to complete the scoring. Tulse Hill's response came from Sheena Bailey, their captain, and the corner specialst, Alex Stephenson.

The restructured men's

County Championship, hockey's uldest domestic competition dating back to the first winners. Lincolnshire, in 1958, gets under way today at eight venues. The competition is split for the first time into A and B Divisions, with the winners of the eight groups playing off at Milton Keynes over the weekend of 3 to 4 May.

Surrey, the defending champions, host one of the A Division groups at Surbiton where their strongest opposition is likely to come from Somerset. Surbiton's surprise advance last weekend to the Hockey Association Cup semi-finals has been a blessing for Surrey, who have now centred their side virtually on the Surbiton squad. with a couple from Richmond.

Paterson's pivotal role

Basketball RICHARD TAYLOR

Wembley holds no fears for Newcastle Eagles and, if they can continue their winning away sequence against London Towers there tomorrow, they will return for the Budweiser League play-off finals on 3 and 4 May. The quarter-final series beween League runners-up Tow-

ers and seventh-placed Eagles hangs on the decisive third game. Eagles lost twice at home in the League, but beat Towers away. Then they lost the opening quarter-final game 91-79 in Vewcastle, but defeated Towers 80-70 last week at Wembley.

Scott Paterson proved his importance to the Eagles. He missed most of the first play-off game with an eye injury, but returned to lead their scorers with 23 points, including three, long-range, three-pointers.
"Scott is a pivotal piece on

our chessboard," Tom Hancock, the Eagles coach, said.
"Some people don't like the idea of 6ft 10in guys stepping out to shoot the three, but I do." The Towers' coach, Kevin Cadle, just wants to make

amends. "I made some mistakes in terms of personnel and defensive moves," he said, "but even so, when you had as many open shots and fast breaks as we did, you have to convert them.

'No curse' says champion

Cycling

Johan Museeuw, the world champion, is out to disprove theories of a jinx when he lines up in the Liège-Bastogne-Liège race tomorrow.

Bad luck has blighted the Belgian World Cup holder's three previous Cup races this season, crashing during the Milan-San Remo sprint finish, colliding at a crucial time in the Tour of Flanders, and suffering a five punctures in the Paris-Roubaix.

His mishaps were reminiscent of past misfortunes that have been suffered by world champions who have subsequently worn the rainbow jersey in the

classics over thepast decade. " don't believe in [a curse] ... and even if it was true the jersey would still be worth it," he said. Musecuw, who has won the World Cup series for the past two years, nevertheless feels it will be difficult to win the Liège-Bastogne-Liège race, a testing 262km (164 miles) ride in hilly

southern Belgium. "On paper this race suits me the least," Museeuw said. The in-form Frenchman, Laurent Jalabert, feels at home on hilly courses, however, and is the hot favourite to complete the Belgian "Ardennes double" after having romped to victory in Wednesday's Fleche Wallonne

Guy Hodgson meets a man in the right frame of mind to end Stephen Hendry's reign as world snooker champion

he one thing you could never say about Peter Ebdon is that he is boring. It takes a certain brassiness to record a single "I Am A Clown" when a number of snooker watchers concur with the title. It is hardly the action of a shrinking violet, either, to thump the air and scream when you win an important match.

Indeed, the 26-year-old world No 3 polarises opinions. Some people take one look and reach for the diatribe, others see him as a draw, a foil to the deadpan of Stephen Hendry. Black and White, cocky showman or a breath of fresh air, indifference does not seem to register.

Which, for some, will make the next 17 days of the Embassy World Championship as much a trial of pain or pleasure as it was 12 months ago. Last year Ebdon surprised some by reaching the final, this time it would harely raise an eyehrow. Take away the enduring proviso, Hendry, and he would be the favourite to win the title.

"I'd like to think I'll be world champion." he said, his eyes closing and his face lighting up just in anticipation. "Just to win it once. Just to say I did that. Hopefully it's this year, if not next year.

The journey towards his anticipated year negan with being inspired by watching Steve Davis and Jimmy White and taking up the game as a 14-year-old. By the time he was due to take eight O-levels he was hooked, skipping his exams and causing a deep and unhappy chasm with his father, who refused to speak to him for six months. 'It was a crazy decision, look-

ing back on it now," he said. "It's worked out for me but I'd be mortified if my children did it. My father's reaction made it mentally tough but it was his test for me. I look back and I know he was thinking 'if he can get through this, he can get through anything." The rift has long since been healed.

In retrospect, snooker should have been braced for something different. Pony-tailed and bedecked in eye-wateringly bright waistcoats, Ehdon gatecrashed into the greater consciousness in 1992 by annihilating his hero, Davis, 10-4 in his first match at the Crucible.

I found the whole thing, the Crucible, Sheffield, inspiring," he said. "I remember the first year, before I played Steve I walked out into the arena when it was empty. It was incredible, I had goose pimples all over. I could just imagine the atmosphere. I don't think

I'll ever forget that feeling."
His first ranking title, the Grand Prix, came in 1993 and this year he has claimed two others. He says he is having an inconsistent season, the result in part of the 16-12 defeat he suffered in the world final at the hands of Hendry 12 months ago.

"I was more than very disapointed," he said. "I was so tired by the time I got to the final that I didn't really do myself justice. I'd had three very tough matches against Jimmy White (13-12), Steve Davis (13-10) and Ronnie O'Sullivan (16-14) and mentally I was exhausted.

"I didn't play anywhere near as well and although, in my opinion, Stephen didn't either, experience is a massive factor, particularly at the Crucible,



Peter Ebdon: Charted (just) with "I Am A Clown"

and that saw him through. If Γd continued where Γd left off against Ronnie, I believe I'd have come through no matter who my opponent was.

"Afterwards I don't think I started practising early enough in the summer and, although I won the first tournament of the season, the Regal Masters, there was a delayed reaction to the fact that I hadn't put enough work in."

Away from that work, off the table there was the singing - "It charted. Well, it went in at 157 or 167 if you can call it chart-ing and it declined after that" - but, more lastingly, there is racehorse breeding, something he hopes to devote more time

to when he retires. Ebdon has three fillies in training at Eric Alston's yard Photograph: Alex Livesey/Allsport enjoy having a bet but one of the

near Preston, Ordained and Magic Lake who have already won for him, and Poetry In Mo-tion, whose sire is Ballad Rock. It is the last of the three who excites her owner most.

"She's a very well-bred animal so even if she doesn't race I can take her to any top-class stallion. Her progeny will be worth a lot of money to me because of the strength in depth

It all points to a man who gambled with his education being equally profligate with his earnings now but, as with many things about Peter Ebdon, the first impression is not necessarily the right one.

"I've been very lucky in that the horses have virtually covered their expenses so far. I used to

things that being a horse owner has taught me is that, even when they are fit, fancied and trying, they are animals, not ma-chines. That taught me a good lesson early on. When they run, they haven't a penny of

Animals, not machines. It could be applied to Ebdon himself. His flamboyant reactions to success, he says, are born of excitement and owe nothing to cockiness or disrespect. shows how much I care," he said. At least the spectator knows

what his feelings are. There is no façade when he wins a match, just unconfined joy. Snooker, some say, is short of characters. Ebdon embodies the counter-argument.

Greatness beckons determined Hendry

GUY HODGSON

In Ken Russell's film about Gustav Mahler, the composer is on a train when a hussars' officer asks him: "No great writer of symphonies gets beyond nine. How is your 10th?" Mahler died in 1911, his last whispered word "Mozart" and his 10th Symphony unfinished.

If nine has proved to be the point of mortality for Beethoven, Schubert, Bruckner and Mahler, then six looms in soooker's mythology. Ray Reardon and Steve Davis have won the modern world championship six times and Stephen Hendry is on that number. A seventh, and numerical verification of his position as the greatest snooker player of all time, has been his ambition and

his incentive. The World Championship begins at the Crucible today, with the 28-year-old Hendry's pursuit of his seventh title the overwhelming theme.

"I'm going to be trying so hard in Sheffield," he said, "that if anyone wants to beat me they're going to have to scrape me off the table."

Hendry, at his best, is un-touchable but, if you had to pick a test designed to toppie the man who has won the title five times in succession, then the one

facing him is it. He begins today with Andy Hicks, a semi-finalist in 1995, and he is then scheduled to meet Mark Williams, who beat him 9-2 in the final of the British Open two weeks ago. Waiting in the quarter-finals should be the great unpre-

dictable: Ronnie O'Sullivan.

Fatigue as much as form might prove Hendry's weak spot, but he does not mind who he plays. "Being at the Crucible is incentive enough," he said. However, if Hendry cannot extend himself again, where is the next champion? The 21year-old O'Sullivan is in with a shout, although his appetite is open to question. He indicated

that he would retire during the

European Open, but stayed on, explaining: "It wasn't the first time I've said I'll quit and I don't suppose it'll be the last." Last year, O Sullivan seemed

like a car going too fast towards a tight corner. He was offensively rude to Alain Robidoux and later assaulted a press officer while riding the rollercoaster of his personality into the semi-finals. You need mental rigidity to win at the Crucible, and his is always suspect. How he would react if he did beat Hendry in the last eight is anyone's guess.

The other side of the draw provides more solid threats to the reigning champion. Peter Ebdon, last year's runner-up, has the talent and, he hopes, the endurance to upset Hendry, but also lurking are Steve Davis and John Higgins. The transformation of Davis

from the player everyone wanted to see beaten into the ageing favourite carrying the hopes of the romantics is a tribute to what failure can do. The 39year-old former champion

confounded everyone by taking the Benson and Hedges Masters m February when success seemed improbable. Lightning is unlikely to strike twice, no matter how popular it would be. and Higgins will have to be overcome in the quarter-finals.

Twelve months ago Higgins was everyone's choice as Hendry's potential nemesis, but his light has faded. The 21-yearold Scot had to change his cue in January and has since won the European Open, although his recent form has left him and his admirers feeling short-

changed.

It's been an OK season for other players," he said, "but af-ter the standard I've reached over the past two years I demand more of myself. I need to get my finger out for the Crucible. Give it my best shot. If I play well, I'll have a hell of a

So will Hendry and, as throughout the 90s, his personality will dominate the tournament. A magnificent seven

WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP DRAW P Ebdon (3) D Harold (11) A McManus (6) R O'Sullivan (8) B Snaddor K Doherty (7) M Davis S Davis (10) J Wattana (12) D McLellan D Dale J Higgins (2) Parrott (4)

Ermed: Boneham Wood v Heydridge: Bromley
- Orbord Ch. Carshallon V Duken Hamber, Da-sont am & Redbridge v Yeading: Grays v Chert-sey: Hamos. Borough v Sution that Hicking v Henaron; Kargstinnan v St. Albany, Stanes v Bish-on's Startforth Veoril v Purfleet. First Divisions Service Sorough v Sutton Utit: Hilding v Herach (Angestinan v Sharis) Standard Stand

V Crambry, newport Art V Gressey Noters; Nuneator v Cambridge City; Salisbury v Baldock; Sittingbourne v Morthyr Tydfi, Middend Dikislient Finckley Town v Sudon Codified; likeston v Reddach; Moor Green v Evesham; Paget Rangers v Corby; Raenig Warwick v Bedworth; Rothwell v Stafford; Siegshed Dynamo v Raunds; Stouthodige v Solimuli; Tamworth v Dudley; VS Rugby v Grantham. Southern Division: Bashley v Waston-super-Mare; Buckingham Town v Newport loW; Cevedon v Farcham; Enth & Behvedere v Weymouth; Fisher Athleto v Crencester; Forest Green Rovers v Dartford; Margiale v Cinderlord; Towningle v Havant; Trowbridge v Fleet; Winstonike.
WinstonLEAD KEMT LEAGUE: Beckenham v Hythe; Cray Wanderers v Chetham; Crock-

NORTHERN COUNTIES EAST LEAGUE Pre-

3.45 SOTHEBY'S HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS D) £5,000 added 3m

— 10 declared — Minerum: 10st. Verges: Coragn Peter 9st 10th. Nitrate 9st 10th. Vermon 3r 10th. Abslan Heir 9st 3h. Heathwarts Boy 9st 1th. Altivey Bue 9st 12th. 98 TING: 9-4 Quite A Man, 5-2 Harmest View, 6-1 Heathwarts Boy, 13-2 Kindla, 7-1 Winnew, 12-1 Frentier Flight, 14-1 Liberterien, 20-1 others

4.45 JANE McALPINE HUNTER CHASE (CLASS H) £2,000 added 3m 110yds

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5.15 EMRAL HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS F) £4,000 added 2m 17

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WEEKEND FIXTURE GUIDE

te Thistic; Wick Academy v Lossembuth.
LEASUE OF WALES: Caemarton v Coersis
(2.30); Connah's Quay v Porthmadog; Corsey
v Briton Feny; Holywell v Abrayshwith, Llansanti-fraid v Rhy; Newtown v Carmarthar. Ton Pen-tre v Ebbw Vale (2.30); Welshpool v Ownbran.

3.0 urless stated CS COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIP Final: Cumbra y Somerset (at Twickenham), Under-21. Final: Dorset & Wilts v Yorkshire (12.30) (at Twick-arbam)

enham). Courage clubs' championship Na-COUNTAIL CLUES CHARPTONSHIP National Lague Once Barth v Orast Bastol v London Insh; Gloucester v Harteques; Leicester v Saracaris (2.15); Wass Hartlepool v Northamban. National League Two: Bedford v London Scottish; Bledsheath v Waterloo; Covertry v Moseley. Nothingham v Rugby; Richmand v Waterlad; Rotherham v Newcastie. National Laugue Threes Cifton v London Welsh; Ever

North Walstern v Berling, Teberd v Beny HE; Weston-S-Mare v Henley, WELSH NATIONAL LEAGUE First Division:

WEISH NATIONAL LEAGUE Flast Divisions Bridgend v Caerphilly (2.30); Certiff v Durwant (2.30); Ebber Valle v Porthymold (2.30); Nesth v Newport (2.30); Newbridge v Swanesa (2.30); Treacrity v Uanetill (2.30), Second Di-visions Abertillery v Abersion (2.30); Bonymaen v Blackwood (2.30); Cross Keys v Ystradigm-last (2.30); Llandovery v Aberspron (2.30); Pon-typool v Masside (2.30); UMC (Cartiff Inst); v South Wales Police (2.30).

Hockey

COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIP: Pool One (Croshy, 10.30-6.0): Lancs, Durham, Northants, Middlesse, Essex. Pool Two (Celford, 10.80-6.0): Stropalire, Cheshire, Kerz, Warwick, Notts. Pool Taree (Campock, 10.30-6.0): Staffs, Sussex, RAF, Berls, Yorks. Pool Four (Sustition, 10.30-6.0): Army, Survey, Cambs, Somerset, Hants. Pool Hive (Clester Moor): Currbria, Words, Channel Islands, Nortick, Northurbeirad, Pool Sk (Methos Moultray, 10.30-6.0): Laics, Lancs, IoM, Derbys. Pool Seven (Portsmooth, 10.20-6.0): RN, Conwell, Devon, Hereford, Beds. Pool Eight (Ipswich, 2.30-6.30): Sulfok, Was, Globs, Con. WOMEN'S INTER-LEAGUE PLAY-OFFS 048.

ELITE LEAGUE: Coveney v loswich; Swindon v PRESMAY STAR CUP: Bradford v Belle Vue; Easthourne v Peterborough. PRESMER LEAGUE RNOCK-OUT CUP: Berwick

Other sports

BADMINTON: Friends Provident Grand Siam (Reducides). JUDO: British Open Chempionships (National Indoor Arena, Birmingham). MOTOR RACING: British Touring Car Champion-SNOOKER: Embessy World Chemplanships (Sheffield).

DR MARTENS LEAGUE Premier Division: Crawley v Nuneaton (3.0). Southern Division: St Leonards Stamport v Buckingham Town (3.0).

SECOND DIVISION: Batley v Hunslet (3.15); Carlisle v Rochdale (6.0); Doncaster v Leigh (3.0); Prescot v Bramley (3.0); York v Barrow

3.0 Linkse stated COURAGE CLUBS' CHAMPIONSHIP National Lengue One: Wasps v Sele (at Loitus Road). National Lengue Times: Leeds v Fylde.

SRU TENNENTS 1556 CUP Onseter-Snak

Rugby League

Rugby Union

£1.80, £3.70, £3.400, £1.60, DF: £1.50, £0.05; £162.58. Thos £52.75.93. Thos £571.50.

\$.10: 1. DANCE PARADE (T Quinn) 16-1; 2. Seebe 5-1; 3. Well Warned 50-1. 10 ran. 4-7 far Secrytime (40), %, %, f. (P Cole, Whatcombe); foota: £15.40, £2.50, £1.90, £7.90.
DF: £41.30. CSF. £87.24. Thos £222.80.

\$240: 1. GHATAR (R Hell 7-2; £37.2 Beams 100-1; 3. Redbridge 4-1, 18 ran. ½. ½%, U Durlon, Aunoled, Totar £31.50; £1.90, £38.40, £1.60. DF: £244.40. CSF. £367.93. This: £400.90. NR: Gee Bee Boy.

\$4.10: 1. REPERTORY (R Parham) 50-1; 2. To The Roof £12-1; 3. Eastern Prophets 8-1; 4. That Man Again 14-1, 20 ran. 3-1 fav Sea-Deer (5th). Sm. hd. ½, (M Saunders, Welst), Totar £11.1.40; £14.00, £2.90, £2.20, £2.80, DF: £575.10, CSF. £494.87. Those: £45.54.37. Thos £1.853.40.

52.20, 52.80, DF, 5675.10, CSF: 5494.87.

Incest: 54,514.37. Thor \$1.853.40.

4.40: 1. ROOL RAT KATE (O Pesser) 2-1

for, 2. Inhand Lore 12-1: 2. Selfish 7-1. 19

ran. 1, 3%. (D Loder, Newmarkel). Totage
\$3.30; £1.80, £3.10, £3.80. DF, £38.00.

CSF: £26.04, Tito: £84.00.

8.10: 1. CANKIN CAN (K Fallor) 11-8 favy
2. Top Coes 11-1: 3. Otto E Metzo 33-1.

12 ran. 3, ¼. (H Coci). Totae: £2.50,
£1.60, £3.10, £8.30. DF, £14.60. CSF.
£37.21. Titoae: £338.36. Tito: £294.40,
Jacknot Nat work £35.341.73 carried for. Jackpot: Not work £35,341.73 carried forward to Newbury today.
Placepot: £887.50. Quadret: £191.30.
Place 6: £463.82. Place 5: £222.13.

AYR
2.00:1. CHOPWELL CURTAINS (L Wyer)
11:2; 2. Solostor's Denicer even's fav; 3.
Bear Claw 7-2. 9 ran. 2½, 4. (T Easterly, Matron). Pone: £8.40; £2.10, £1.10, £1.40.
Duel Foresest £4.70. Computer Society Foresest £9.04. This: £3.60.
2.30:1. MAHLER (Bir J Goldstein) 14-1:
2. Morphees: £6-1; 3. Kenfdeesest £6-1; 4.

2.30: 1. MAHLER (Mr J Goldstein) 14-1: 2. Morphees 15-1: 3. Harridecent 16-1: 4. Nathannia 11-2 (m. 18 run. 1 / 4. (N Thiston-Davies, Cheffenham), Totae (19-90: 53-50, 52.80; £7.00; £3.00: 1. MARZILO (P Men) 1.8 tac 2. Domington 9-1: 3. Perrone Lad 10-1 8 run. 1/4. 15. (Mrs M Reveley, Settourn), Totae £1.20; £1.10, £1.60. £1.10. DF; £2.50. CSF: £2.15.

LEAGUE OF WALES: Sarry v Comees Bay (3.0); Inter Cable-Tel Cardiff v Bengar City (3.0). HARP NATIONAL LEAGUE OF BRELAND Premier Division: Bohemians v Stigo Rovers (3.15): Bay Wandsers v Frnn Harps (3.15): Dundsik v Cank City; Home Ferm Bierton v Shel-bourne (3.15).

5.0), Pool Six (Melton Mowaray, 9.49-12-90; Pool Swere (Porsmouth, 9.30-5.0), Pool Eight (Ipsmoth, 10.0-5.0), WOMEN'S INTER LEAGUE PLAY-OFFS (Mil-ton Keynes NRS, 10.0-2.0); Adindge v Cot-wall Bury St Edmunds v Poynton; Tulse Hill v

STONES SUPER LEAGUE: Castleford v Hat-iaxx (3.30); Sheffield v Leeds (6.35); St He-lens v Warnington (3.0); Wigan v Oxform (3.01). HRST DIVISION: Hull v Huddersfeld (3.15); Kelighley v Devistony (3.0); Swinzon v Hull KR (3.0) Widnes v Welesfield (3.0); Workington v Featherstone (3.0).

Raskethall SUDWEISER LEAGUE Play-off quarter-finals third lest London v Newcastje (6,30),

PREMIER LEAGUE KNOCK-OUT CUP: Clasgow v Bernick (6.30); Newcastle v Edinburgh (6.30); Skegness v Long Eaton (6.30).

BADMINTON: Friends Provident Grand Slam (Redondge) MOTOR RACING: British Touring Car Champi-

Boroughnuir v Wassonians (2.0); Kirtealdy v Dundee HSFP (2.0); Peobles v Hend's FP (2.0); West of Scotland v Metrose (2.0). SRU TENNENTS 1556 BOWL Quarter-finals: SNOOKER: Embassy World Championships TABLE TEMPES: Communivesità Championships

RACING RESULTS

NEWBURY

2.10: 1. MIRANA (L. Dettori) 9-2; 2. Kessat 50-1; 3. Chips 9-4 fav. 8 ras. 294, Int. (J Gooden, Neumraned). Tota: £4.40; £1.70, £8.00, £1.10. Dual Forecast: £91.90. Computer Straight Forecast: £91.51.3. Tinc: £176.80. NR: Livingsrone.
2.40: 1. AMED ALBADU (L. Dettori) 9-1; 2. Peartree Hotse 20-1; 3. Sword Arm 20-1; 4. Noble Dase 13-2. 18 ran. 4-1 fav Martool, 4, 10. (J. Durlog, Auridel). Tota: £6.20; £1.60, £3.70, £4.00, £1.60. DF. £130.30. CSF. £163.53. Tricist: £3.275.93. Tric: £871.50.

AYR

\$1.20; £1.10, £1.60, £1.10, DF, £7.50, CSF.
\$2.15.
\$3:0: 1. DESTIN D'ESTRIVAL (R Johnson) 7-1; 2. Destiny Calls 3-1 far, 3. Leaterd 17-1; 9:12a. 11, Nr. (D Nicholson, Temple Gutting). Total: £13.60; £3.50, £1.60, £1.20.
\$1.20. DF, £1.4.10, CSF: £25.84. Titeast: £24.9.1, Nr. £24.9.50.
\$2.40.4. Tro: £24.9.50.
\$2.40.4. Tro: £24.9.50.
\$2.40.4. Tro: £24.9.50.
\$2.50.51.50. DF: £1.300.40. CSF: £1.359. £3.60. DF: £1.300.40. CSF: £1.159.60. TriCast: £1.4.712.18. Trio: £602.10.

4-30: 1. Richime (Mr M Brachume) 4-7 av, 2. Royal Jesser 11-2: 3. Southern Minstrel 25-1. 7 ran. 2%. 12. U Hughes, Galashkels), Totes £1.60: £1.10. £1.70. DF: £2.50. CSF: £3.97.
5.00: 1. SUPPERTOP (Mr B Gibson) 20-1; 2. Captain Mammalade 25-1: 3. Fozzair 12-1; 4. Hand Of Straw 100-1. 20 ran. 9-2 tov Flyaway Blues. 1%, Ind. II. Lurgo, Carnutherstown). Tote: £61.90: £7.10. £5.00. £3.00. £20.90. DF: £1.374.80. CSP: £427.90. Tocast: £5.839.23. Tito: Not won.
Placepot: £130.60. Quadoot: £61.10. Place 8: £61.06. Place 8: £58.08.

ran. 2. str.-Ind. II Eustace). Tote: £6.50: £1.70, £2.00, £1.80. DF: £54.90. CSF: £64.37. Trio: £40.70.

ram. 2%, 8. (M. Jarvis). Toha: £12.20. OF: £7.80. CSF: £26.03.
4.20: 1. PAINT IT BLACK (Alex Greenes) 16-1; 2. Dispot Gern 8-1; 3. Ricearnon 16-1; 4. Godmersham Park 16-1. 18 ran. 5-2 fav Eurobra 80y, ½, nk. (D. Nicholis). Tota: £20.70. £3.60. £2.00. £5.50, £6.80. DF: £50.30. CSF: £114.28. Thesat: £1.497.73. The £304.20.

DF: £7.50, CSF: £12.33. Tricast: £129.97. Tric. £156.00. sepot: £2,947.60, Quedpot: £412.70 Place 6: £2,569.66. Place 5: £793.35

* THE INDEPENDENT



BANGOR

HYPERION 2.10 Cherokee Chief 2.40 My Nominee 3.10 Indian Jockey 3.45 Prussia 4.15 Kiltulia 4.45 Orange Ragusa 5.15 Mapleton

We have been discussed to the second of Audi and Wang).

So to the continuous Marchant near purchase of Audi and Wang).

So to the continuous Marchant Salton, ADMISSION: Puddark 50;

the total of under the live all old featurest. CAR PARK: Free.

BILVELEED FIRST THE PROPAGATE Ellie (2.10)

WINNERS IN THE LAST SEVEN DAYS: Sharp Command LONG-DISTANCE RUNNERS: Tiger Cleve (4-45) sent 223 miles 2.10 CREWE NOVICE HURDLE (CLASS E)

CHRONES CHEF (51) (BF) O Section S 11 U J A Michaelly COOL CH (52) (Inch S 11 U J V Statisty UV STATIST (152) (Inch S 11 U J V STATIST (IDEA STATE (152) STATIST (IDEA STA

- 18 declared - SETTING: 7-4 Cherokee Chief, 7-2 Ring Of Vision, 4-1 Persian Etha, 8-1 Special Best, 14-1 Northern Star, 18-1 Aut No to, 20-1 others

ROBERT JONES OPEN HUNTER CHASE
(CLASS H) £2,000 added 2m 4f 110yds
ROBERT JONES OPEN HUNTER CHASE
(CLASS H) £2,000 added 2m 4f 110yds
RNG OF SMDOWS (18) Mac Corten 10 12 7 Mr S Prior 77
MY NOMINE (10) (20) P Notable 9 12 7 Mr R Burton (7) B
RATHER SMAP (315) 5 Water 11 12 7 Mr R Pullock (9)
CHARLES DELIGAN (31) Unc C Holes 9 12 0 Mr M Narround (7)
DALAMETRE (34) (87) Mac (31) 10 Mr M W Talbright (7)
MADIAD (302) 0 Mr (31) 17 0 Mr M W Talbright (7)
MADIAD (302) 0 Mr (31) 17 0 Mr M W Talbright (7)
MADIAD (302) 0 Mr (31) 17 0 Mr M S Saleddis (7)
SAMI (05A) (667) 7 Sentick (3 12 0 Mr M Saleddis (7)
THORNAUL (301) F Macros 7 11 9 Mr A Wood (7)

11 declared -

- 11 declared

SETTING. 6-11 My Nominee, 6-1 Datametre, 7-1 Cabig, 8-1 Press For Actor, 13-1 Surphy Perfect, 13-1 Seathl, 14-1 Madied, 16-1 others 3.10 HALLIWELL LANDAU NOVICE CHASE (CLASS D) £6,000 added 2m 1f 110yds

ering: Belper v Ossett Album: Bingg v North Fer-riby; Denaby v Maliby; Hallium v Liversedge; Ossett Town v Hatfield Marr. Portedact v Hudi-nall; Setby v Sheffield. NORTH WEST COUNTIES LEAGUE First Divi-

Trey EDOW Visit (2.30); Westingdor V Ammoran.
SMIPROFF IRSSH LERGUTE Premiter Divisions:
Ands v Cliffonwile; Crussiders v Coloranne: Gleneuon v Portadown; Lurded v Gleritoran. First
Dwistors Ballymena v Omagn; Camick v Ballyclaric Larne v Distillery; Newly v Bangor.
HARP NATIONAL LEAGUE OF IRELAND Premiler Divisions: Deny City v St Patrick's Arhletic (7.30).

2.35 Shekels 3.05 Over The Pole 3.35 Schnoz zie 4.05 Domaine De Pron 4.35 Tuffmut George

5.05 Siberian Mystic 5.35 Mountain Path

GOING: Good (Good to Firm in places).

Left-hand course with 200yd run-in.

Course is SW of Stratford-on-Avon on AA3D. Stratford station in. ADMINSTON: Club 512; Tatternalls 58; Course 54. CAR PARK: inside course 52, remainder free.

ELRYSERED FIRST TIMB: Lord Ellion (4.35).

WINNERS IN THE LAST SEVEN DATR: Poiden Pride (3.05) won at Newton Abbot on Saturday; Delly Sport Girl (5.05) won at Scattered on Monday.

at Southwell on Monday. LONG-DISTANCE EUNNERS: Cloudy House (5.35) sent 189

2.35 JENKINSONS NOVICE HURDLE (CLASS E) (DIV I) £2,000 added 2m 6f 110yds

3.05 LAURENT-PERRIER HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS C) £5,500 added 2m 4f

BETTING: 7-2 Poiden Prints, 4-1 Philip's Woody, 9-2 Callison Bay, High AllClarke, 7-1 Around The Horn, 8-1 Born Vacation, 10-1 etc.

3.35 RICHARDSONS NOVICE HANDICAP HUR-DLE (CLASS E) £2,500 added 2m 110yds

DLE (CLASS E) £2,500 added 2m 110yds

1 31PJP RITTO (28) (RF) Noale 7 11,13 ... N Name
F4-035 SCHROZZE (RS) K BEQUETE 6 11 7 ... G Benthey
A47450 BALLY PARSON (RD) R Diden 11 11.2 ... D Larby
GSELF MULINO RECOK (ES) I M basiny 5 11 1 ... D Sattagher
GOUPG-0 MANLA (RY) B De Nam 7 11 0 ... R Belling
GOUPG-0 MANLA (RY) B De Nam 7 11 0 ... S MANLA
HAND RECOK (RS) Name 1 10 ... S MANLA
HAND RECOK (RS) P Hedge 6 10 12 ... M Claste (R)
GOUPG-0 MANLA (RY) B DE Nam 7 11 0 ... S MANLA
HAND REST (LS) T CHART (LS) P Hedge 6 10 12 ... M Claste (T)
JOSU ZESTI (LS) T CHART (LS) P Hedge 6 10 12 ... M Claste (T)
JOSU ZESTI (LS) T CHART (LS) F Roste 4 10 6 ... S Wyone
L 20 PAPP ANDTHER COMEDY (LS) R LOS 7 10 0 ... P Hensey (S)
JAMES AND REST (LS) T (RS) R LOS 7 10 0 ... P Hensey (S)
JAMES AND REST (LS) T (LS) T (RS) T (LS) T (L

Alicinum: The neights: Acutar Commit Sat 13th, Department Bellear Sat 13th, Secus Option Sat 13th, Acus Ambar Sat 13th, Alpha Leather Sat 13th, Acus Ambar Sat 13th, Alpha Leather Sat 13th, Acus Ambar Sat 13th, Alpha Leather Sat 13th, Alpha Leather, A. Fencar's, Quest, 5-1 Alpha Leather, 7-1 (1800, 8-1 Katchikam, 10-1 Aqua Auther, Schmozzin, 12-1, others

· 11. declered – Occost, 11-2 Beck And Call, 13-2 Freeline

ndles by N Lampard from Kingsbridge, Devoc

- 11. cocases -BETTING: 13-8 Sheckels, 9-2 Occasi, 11-2 Beck And Call, Fontaine, 10-1 Irish Delight, 12-1 Green King, 18-1 others

TARLE TEXASS: Commonwealth Chemoionshios **TOMORROW** Football STRATEGED

4.05 STRATFORD-ON-AVON NOVICE CHASE (CLASS D) £5,500 added 3m

3 DEBONNE DUDE (SS) (EF) N Herchson 7 10 12_M A Regional U10352- HI NEDLEY (378) G Hubbert 7 10 12______ D Gallagher 45P0-02 LITTLE GLUOT (22) (EF) Smoon Earle 9 10 12_____ Aspell (3) 9 4-2006 JUY FOR LIFE (28) R Stonge 6 10 7 _______S Wyens _ 9 declaired = 8ETTING: 9-4 Father Sty, 11-4 Master Toby, 7-2 December De Pron , 11-2 Metalk, 10-1 Debomar Dode, 12-1 H Hediny, 18-1 others

4.35 RICHARDSONS STAR SITE HUNTER CHASE (CLASS H) £2,500 added 2m Sf 110yds 1P1PPP- TUDOR FABLE (3872) C Sweeing 9 12 10 Mr R Sweeing (7) 231-142 TUPPHUT GEORGE (15), Mas P Granger 10 12 10 July A Phillips (7) 422-213 FOR POINTER (10) (89) Mrs L Evens 12 12 7 Mrs O Northann (7)

- 10 consense -SETURE: 9-4 Fox Pointer, 7-2 Frank De Lucip, 5-1 Tudor Fable, 13-2 Tuffan Georgis, 8-1 Prinzal, 10-1 Abbetsham, Pro Bose, 12-1 others

5.05 PICHARDSONS PARK HCAP HARDLE (CLASS D) £3,000 added mares 2m 110yds

- 6 declared -Minimum weight 10st. True transferp weights: Sherian Mystic Set 12th, Secret Gift Sat 10th, Belly Sport Gift Sat 10th. BETTING: 9-4 Secret Gift, 11-4 Siberlan Mystic, 100-30 Barford Severeign, 7-1 Stapleford Lady, 8-1 Delly Sport Cirl, 18-1 Handy Lass

5.35 ENKINSONS NOVICE HURDLE (CLASS E)
(DIV II) £2,000 added 2m 6f 110yds

CLOUDY HOUSE N Campard 8 10 7 ______ Nr L Baker (7) 30622/ SkY BURST (723) Has V Williams 7 10 7 _____ A Upton - 11 deciscod -BETTHM: 7-4 Mountain Path, 5-2 Supreme Fiyer, 5-1 Pat Buckley, 10-1 Sky Burst, Lord Cool, 12-1 Willows Rouletta, Armeteur, 16-1 others

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THERSK

2.20: 1. DIVINE MESS-P (W.) O'CONNO!
8-1; 2. Two On The Bridge 9-2; 3. Prince
O'Pariess 14-1. 9 ran. 9-4 few Truly Parched
(Sth. Nk. 2. V.) Janks), Yotes £16.80: £2.70.
£1.10. £2.60. Dual Forecast: £17.10. Computer Straight Forecast: £36.45. Tho: £51.60.
NR: Journ's Johns,
2.50: 1. PENNILESS (J. Weavert 6-1: 2.
Out Like Magic 5-2; 3. Amounia's Double
9-4 few. 7 man. Hd. 1. (N Trivier). Totas: £8.40:
£3.10. £2.10. DF: £7.40. CSF. £22.21.
3.20: 1. LAMARITA J. Totel: £5.50:
Than Mist 12-1: 3. Maßby Man. 11-4 few. 9
man. 2. str. Hd. Eustade). Totel: £6.50:

3.50: 1 REGAT (P Stoordeid) 14-1; 2. Percy isle 10-11 fav; 3. Surtsey 11-10, 4 tan. 2/h, 8. (M Javis). Tota: £12.20, OF;

4.50: 1 MERANTI (R Firench) 2-1 fov; 2. Foist 5-1: 3. Naughty Pistol 14-1: 4, Gulf Shaadi 10-1. 16 ran. V., nk. U M Bradley. Total 4,70; £1-20, £1-80, £2-50, £2-70. DE: £7-50, CSE, £2-70, Table 54-70;

RACING SERVICES

behind him

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Country Page 18 etatienente enilitä. traffe t_{able of} -

VOUCHER PE

When he looks down the greensward of the Manton gallops each morning Peter Chapple-Hyam sees one horse moving in a style which suggests he is wearing clogs. This colt is one of the worst-bred animals at the luxurious Wiltshire yard. and just about the cheapest. Revoque, however, also happens to be the champion two-year-old of Europe.

The huge bay colt has been reliable on the practice grounds this spring - struggling to keep up with the growth of the grass, and today will tell whether Revoque has carried forward the juvenile ability that allowed him to take the French treasures of the Prix de la Salamandre and Grand Criterium

Today's Greenham Stakes at Newbury, it must be said, is hardly an auspicious trampoline for a prospective 2,000 Guineas winner. Wollow, in 1976, was the last horse to bounce on from a Greenham win to Guineas success, though Chapple-Hyam's Rodrigo De Triano triumphed over the Rowley Mile after a fourth in the 1992 Greenham.

Rodrigo De Triano, remember, used to leave a line of fire behind him when he worked on the gallops, while his great stable-companion, Dr Devious, was the forerunner for Revoque's domestic lethargy. "Rodrigo was an exceptional work of the peril punters are facing). horse, but Revoque's more like the Dr, who wouldn't tell you much on the gallops," Chapple-Hyam, said yesierday. "He works like him, a nothing horse. As a trainer you never know where you are with him, because

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he doesn't give you any clues." A clue as large as fingerprints on a murder weapon should emerge today, however.

for one of Europe's Guine This prompts the thought that In Command is not quite ready and, more importantly, probably not quite good enough to mix with the élite. Revoque (3.00) must toss him into the

streets by the seat of his pants. Manton is represented in the Spring Cup by Lionize, who will struggle to cope with last year's third in the race, Cadeaux Tryst (next best 3.30), while the yard's Chief Contender has it to do against Sacrament (2.30) in the John Porter Stakes.

The opener should go to Richard Rowe's Ashby Hill (2.00), who has been performing with vigour at home, though he has yet to overhaul one boarder at Ashleigh House. I'm Supposin (3.25) is reported to

> RICHARD EDMONDSON NAP: Cab On Target (Ayr 4.05) NB: Cadeaux Tryst (Newbury 3.30)

have recovered from his Champion Hurdle exertions, in which he finished fourth for Kevin Prendergast, and is ready to take the Scottish equivalent at Ayr. The Future Champion Nov-

ices' Chase must go to Sparky Gayle (2.55) if the belief that he is to mature into a Gold Cup horse is to have credence, but there is less certainty about the Scottish National (Stakis Casi-

Major Bell, the ante-post favourite, was taken out yesterday when his trainer, Alistair Whillans, found him lame, while the Grand National fourth, Buckboard Bounce, has Capt Adam Ogden (unable to use his 71b claim) on board as Paul Carberry prefers Act The Wag.

The winner may be a horse who has been patrolling north-Revoque faces the Dewhurst em England and the Borders for Stakes winner, In Command, so long that he could once have whom he beat decisively in last had a centurion on his back.—
August's Acomb Stakes. The latter's trainer, Barry Hills, has said his colt will come on a lot for the race, which will prime him trainer, Mary Reveley.

Sleepytime caught napping

found in as many pockets as the last September, is out to 5-1 for Artful Dodger, writes Richard the Guineas with Ladbrokes, Edmondson Henry Cecil's fil- who have promoted Pas De ly suffered another dreadful Reponse to 7-2. Paul Cole's passage in the Fred Darling Dance Parade won yesterday's Stakes at Newbury yesterday and surrendered her position as favourite for the 1,000 Guineas.

Sleep time also blacked in the state of the state with Sleepytime fourth. "If I'd been able to get out earlier she would have won." Kieren Sleepytime, also blocked in Fallon, her jockey, said.

Sleepytime is beginning to be during the Fillies' Mile at Ascot

2.55: SPARKY GAYLE, who took the Cathcart Chase at Cheltenham,

3.25: I'm Supposin, Irish-trained when a very creditable fourth in the Champion Hurdle, has his first run for Sussex handler Richard

Rowe but may not concede 16lb to impressive Cheltenham scorer

4.95: David Nicholson, who wor

this with an 11-year-old last year, saddles BARONET this time and feels this seven-year-old will be suited by today's marathon trip. The 14-1 early price should be taken.

4.40: EDREDON BLEU is only five but has won six chases in France. He may now resume winning ways

He may now resume winning if handling this faster going.

SHADOW LEADER.

2.00: HARDY DANCER, who ran his best race for some time when 21/2 lengths fifth to Romios in the Rosebery Handicap at Kempton re-cently, is fairly handicapped at present and should go close. Anak-Ku and Vola Vin looks the dangers.

2.30: ELA-ARISTOKRATI, who shaped as if this distance would suit him last year, was unbacky (his rider dropped his reins two fur-longs out) when half a length third to Sacrament and Salmon Ladder (3lb better off today) in the Group Three September Stakes over Im 3I at Kempton.

3.00: REVOQUE, winner of the Group One Prix de la Salamandre Group One Prix de la Salamanure and Grand Criterium over 71 and a mile at Longchamp last year, is sure to be fitter for this 2,000 Guineas pipe-opener but should still overwhelm these rivals if any-where near his best. Muchen might prove the chief threat.

3.30: HAWKSLEY HILL, a short-head second to Knaia Lipis (a pound worse off today) in the Lin-coln Handicap at Doncaster, can reverse those placings.

SCOTTISH GRAND NATIONAL - 10-YEAR-TALE 1967 86 89 90 8 on 10 18 11 9 18 where the A-lies of (1988)

where the second and th

	Ayr - 4.05
Newbury - 3.30	6 H 4 T
Home C H L T	61 132 61 61
Manual VIII 81 7.1 1/2 1/2	Art The West 61 132 132 74
91 101 81 114	Cats On Target 81 72 81 11
By Come 10-1 11-1 61 10-1	Sata Santanta 84 132 74 61 94 104 101 104
14 15 15 15 15 15 15 15 15 15 15 15 15 15	Darkboard Brance 22-1 10-1 12-1 10-1
11.1 11.1 10.1 10.1	Parisonne Boy 124 124 124 124
Company 144 144 124 144 144 144 144 144 144 144	11.1 DA 91 1M
161 161 161	141 101 61 101
Barel On Plan Ren 201 204 201 201	Delever 10rd 22-1 14-1 14-1
Grand St. 16.1 14.1 20.1	Court Helicity
Bedges lady 191 201 191 201	Paris 251 201 201 201
Hadan O'Book 161 121 221 321	281 381 381 281
201 201 201 201	Person Bal 851 1004 651 681
201 201 304 201 201 201 201	Half-markets 100-1 100-1150-1 200-1
251 251 251 251	Parthern a quarter the cubic places 1 2 3 4

HYPERION 1.55 Shu Gaa 4.05 BARONET (Rep) 4.40 Edrecton Bleu 2.25 House Captain 2.55 Sparky Gayle 3.25 Shadow Leader 5.10 River Muliigan Elendrant galloping course; run-in 210yds.

Elendrant galloping course; run-in 210yds.

Elendrant galloping course; run-in 210yds.

Elendrant is east of town on A758. Ayr rull station (service from Glasgow) 1m. ADMISSION: Cade 203; Grandsand 510 (Students & OAPs 55). CAR PARE: Prec.

ELEADING TEAINERS WITH EUNICERS: C Elehards — 51 winners from 203 run-ners gives a success ratio of 25.1% and a loss to a 31 level state of 50.90; Mrs M Roveley — 39 winners, 115 for runners, 22.5%, 574.55; C Parkers — 18 winners, 15.7%, 421.72; P Montelth — 15 winners, 144 runners, 10.4%, 565.78.

ELEADING SOCIETS: P Montelth — 15 winners, 144 runners, 10.4%, 565.78.

ELEADING SOCIETS: P Montelth — 15 winners, 144 runners, 10.7%, 561.63; A Dobbin — 34 winners, 173 ricies, 19.7%, +51.46; B Storey — 30 winners, 191 tides, 15.7%, +51.49; T Reed — 16 winners, 166 rides, 11.0%, 570.82.

ELEADING SOCIETS: TIME: Sim Gast (1.55; Backhouse Boy (4.06); No Pain No Gain (4.40); Ellection (vicored, 4.06). WINNERS IN Time LAST SEVEN DAYS: Act The Wag (4.05) won at Setiphicid on Saturity.

LONG-DISTANCE EUNINERS: Musicali (1.56), Sound Statement (2.55), I'm Supposin (3.25), Spullington (4.06), No Pain No Gain (4.40), Eusak & Normania (5.40) all cent 4.55 miles-pixs from West Sussex. 1.55 ALBERT BARTLETT AND SONS NOVICE HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS C) £6,000 added 470 2m (CLASS C) 2-6,000 accided 4TO 2nt 132120 RC-SSEL (BSK) (BS) (RD) (MS) (Ms) W Makille) P Monteith 12 0 1361 SKE GAA (42) (B) (M K M idebt) 9 Shenhoot 31,5 015 MUREVAL (25) (D) (The C I G 6 Perpeshipt Ledy Hernes 11, 0... 0452 MEJTEMBOOK (SS) (D) (Ms) Shen Record (Lob) M Hammoort 10 11... 213 'CLASS OF SHORODO (25) (D) (Ms) Into McPersoon (P Carlo To B... 000411 SOUSSE (15) (D) (Mesalate Record Permeship) P Inches 10 0.... – 7 decimen weigh: 10st. Tops burdicap weight: Apine 9st 12h, BETTB6C 2-1 Sin: Geo. 7-2 Mahted, 6-1 Sousse, 13-2 Apine Johns, 15-2 Mellemison, Enseel, 12 Clast; of Swards 186: Tough Yeat 6 9 10 G Camil 12-1 (Mrs. J Geodleton) 9 ran 2.25 HAMLET EXTRA MILD CIGARS GOLD CARD HANDICAP HUR-DLE (CLASS B) £12,000 added 2m 6f

	15	1342-4-1 2 Executi	Tulkymany 1017, 5-1 Celestial Choir, Freddie Muck, 7-1 Sh vo Design, 16-1 Outset, 12-1 Or Leant, House Captain, 21 A Day 6 11 4 P Norm 2-1 (Mrs M Reveloy) 9 on	efficie, 8-1 Su 3-1 others	busine radii
	12	2.55	EDINBURGH WOOLLEN MILL'S FUTURE (NOVICE CHASE (CLASS A) (Grade 2) £22,1	HAMPION	
	I 1≔		NUVILE CHASE (LLASS A) (GTAGE 2) 2224	UU 411 4T	4
	1.	4.11111	SPARKY BATE (37) (CD) (2. Mrs. Reymond Anderson Green) (Pader 7 11 10.	R Storey
	15	121128	STATELY HOME (37) (0) (P Bowen) P Bowen 6 11 10	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	R Johnson
. 1	15	000,221	CHIEF MOUSTER (63) (C Shed M Hammond 8 11 3		
٠,	l ă		CROWN EQUERRY (15) (D) (Pober Option) & Richards 7 11 3		
	l 3	1155112	MACGEORGE (63) (D) (BP) (J H Wasson) R Lee 7 11 3		R Danwoody
	6		SOUND STATEMENT (2) Maurice E Princ) Mas S Edwards 8 :		
	<u>7</u>		THE REVERSED BEST (2) (The Boile Club) 6 Besting 9 11.3.		,B Feedon
ı	₽	2525 F1	WITH IMPUNITY (42) (Quest Leaning & Bloodstock Co Luc) P N	cros § 113	
	9	6-1725F	GUTHDA (39) (Mrs.J.K. Powell) N Twiston-Davies 7 10 12		غ رائيسين ع.
1	١.		- 9 declared		
ł	BET	TBH&; 6-4	Sparty State, 4-1 Stately Home, 8-1 Cross Equerry, 7-1	Chief Marister,	8-1 Macgo-
	978	. 9-1 Ca	pda, 20-1 The Reversed Best, 25-1 With Impunity, 50-1 S	owd Statement	ŧ
	199	Ge Addoor	ton Boy 8 11 10 A Dobbin 5-2 (G Richards) 5 san		
		•	FORM GUIDE		
1	Stat	lely Home	s a smart front-cancer on his day but recent performances a	catest that his b	usy small has
			him. SPARKY GAYLE won the Cathcart Chees at Chellenbar		
	-		i likur na višelov sazasov vetel mas potričky raj priti or destarcijami	· 4 100 P	

The season. But aport from Chelenten, Sparty Gayle hasn't been highly tred, writing infrom teems with-out salang much out of houself. He should be feet enough even at this stage of the campaign. Chief Min-lister was taked bigher over hundles then Sparty Gayle and looks the danger. Selection: SPARTY GAYLE

3.25 SAMSUNG SCOTTISH CHAMPION HURDLE (LIMIT-ED HANDICAP) (CLASS A) (Grade 2) £25,000 2m - 11 decimad

حكدا من الأصل

- 11. decimal - 13. decimal - 14. decimal - 15. decimal

Adminstratives change enough to give even the regift 12 enought 20 and fits Supposine, protecting with News Prendergast or leakend, will be ignored to do the same on his first start for Richard Rows. Its Supposine South to Make A Stand or Orderntein was an excellent non on only his third coding over handles and start's no reason why he should'n't benefit from the expension. Only an incur or so before the Ordern on March, SHADON's (EARDER won the Supreme Nover Handle - by an increases 10 lengths or only a signify stower time flag admittedly capting 6th less than itm Supposine, Lie the sprengift, howear, Shadon's belief the soft that can improve at that genes and the 15th his access could make all the difference. Saleshaff interned in front of December Ball in the Champton has Chebesham with these Earl and his turned the form south of Shadon's handledp of Aurese, beauty Cittine Bast time as well. A study common, December Shall have a handles being finished as more than respectable after as the Garden search and the Salesham start of the start of Salesham Sales at November or Wednesday, a parlormanch that suggests he's mady to take parameters of the context are found wemony.

7	1.05	STAKIS SCOTTISH GRAND NATIONAL HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS A) (Grade 3) £69.610 4m 1f
. L	<u> </u>	
1	1512	BELLHONT KING (42) Dies Biles Borel) P Nicholis 9 11 10
2	2/10 P04	BUCKBOARD BOUNCE (12) (Robert Ogder) G Roberts 11, 11, 7
3	FF22FF	BUCKHOUSE BOY (15) (The Basely Boys) N Treston-Daves 7 11 0
4	P2-1122	CAB ON TARGET (15) (C) (SR) (N Harst) Nas M Rondey 11 10 12
5	P53440	MELESHAN (12) EN (H.) Marcent H. Marces 11 10 9S Come V
В.	"3-5123R	SISTER STEPHNAE (15) (Pro Areach Partnerho) G McCoun B 10 6
7	241225	FRANCISCH BUILDS (125) (C) (Mass I, V Russell) Mass I, V Russell 10 10 5
8		STORMTRACKER (39) [First Deute) C Weston 8 10 3
9		KANKKEZE (35) Major 8 Geteratury) K Staley 7 10 2C O'Dayor B
10		BARCHET (SR) (Ars David Thompson) D Hichelson 7 10 2
11		ACT THE WAS (7) (Robert Option) M Todhureer 8 10 1
12	P-2413U	COURT NELCOY (48) (8F) (Apin. Barber, Colores) P Notacks 9 10 1 Mr R Thomaton (2) B.
13		DAICHES BOY (12) (Han Parlar) N Treston Davies 12 10 0C Lieuthys
34		SAME JE (42) (Vince Lon Permanish P Home 8 10 D
		SPUTTENSTON (12) (tuber Cappe) J Gaford 9 10 0
ᆴ	148945	PARSONS BRIG (597) (J S Hattane) J Haidane 11 10 0A S South
17	031313	OFF THE BRU (27) (C BP) (File trissing Max S Brachume 12 10 0 Jan M Brachward (7)
		HIGH LARDHAN (115) (Ats High Finest)) Haldens 11, 10 (
-	rv-7122	- 18 decimal -
		- 10 Charles -

Agricum: 10st. Two segists: Soutington Set 7ts, Pessens Bell Set 5ts, Off The Set Bet 2th, Highendman Set.
BETTING: 6-1. Stormstration, 13-2. Act The Wag, Cub On Yanget, 9-1. Siefer Suphanile, 10-1. Kinnikura,
11-1. Killessin, 12-1. Burunet, Buddoume Boy, Backbourd Bournes, Sunder, 14-1. Behanst King, 151. Delayes Boy, 20-1. Fiveleigh Builds, 33-1. Specificagion, 50-1. others
1996: Mourroot Boy 11 10 2 Nr. Duyer 20-1. (O Nationard 20 sen FORM GLEDE

SISTER STEPHANE; is one of several that would prefer some cut in the ground, she relused to noce in the lists hardonal and she fell the least time that Richard Dunacody rode her (attitudg) she was nucleid in it real busile that day with King Luckier, winwer of the Ken Mur Chase at Cheltenfram lest mortant, but a mare the Stater Staphane maybe best forgiven for not jumping of at [Familiouse — she was an excitent that to Billagost Gulf at Punchestown on a presence was to Instead — and she looks just the sort for the following her third in the Mildards National at Ultimaster. The two that beard her there were the improving young stayer Services, or Comes and, of sourse, Loud Gylane, Nationard Boys as familiar that all Unionates before wanning the lest year, Beatmank Ring's second to Executives at Chestater shouse, he can carry tag weights but there was planty of gos that day and he marght meed soft ground more than most. Fourth behind Lou Cylane to the Grand Nagoros, Beatmourd Bounce is having only his bursh run of the season but the was; majornly of his noder's wins jave been in entertain events and it's impressible to ligiture the fact that Paul Carberry is to the same owner's Act The May, Fries-time biliness (on again today) crashed Act The Wang to day a big weight lest Stitucky, but that eas at Sedigateid and there were some out-of-form homes still postly close until they departed box join home them. Busideouse Boy is lifelered for the first time, presumably to get lam concentrate on his jumping. It extends to be seen if the headgest does the trick but Night hussion-Doues won this in 1992 and 1994 with Captain Dubble and Earth Summer and Sweet, Dube was second to William in 1995. Life those three, Buchtouse Boy as noces who than in the Royal Sunkhason Noceo Chesse at Cheltenhard, although he was pudied up them. Becauset, eighth in the same contest, also represents a and in 1995. The injust miss, populations only is induce which in the form your communications received the second of the second of the second of the second of the injustice o

Į	4.40	CLIENT ENTERTAINMENT SERVICES HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS C) £7,000 added 2m
1	36316	POLITICAL TOWER (3.4) (33) (G R S Keen) R Hagn 10 11 10
2	211304	MASTER COOK (14) (0) DA'S R 45 Hab J Key 11 11 10
3	111520	EDREDOM BLEU (FIG (72) (Jun Lews) Mass H Kings 5 11 7R Domeses
ī	1311-00	STORM FALCON (USA) (37) (0) & R Oaby) S Meter 7 10 12
5		NO PAIN NO GAIN (16) (CD) (The Marrelous Perparatus) I Colors 9 to 12
6		WEAVER GEORGE (30) (0) (30) Regard Decorators (ad) W Storry 7 10 5
7	512113	MONYSMAN (86) (D) (8F) (Tabler Hemmanys) M Hammand 7 10 2
Ř	1F2423	BOLDEN HELD (19) (D) (G E Stouten T Easterby 6 10 2
9		BALLEGIO (37) (CD) (Garrie Patertson) P Mortego 8 10 0
-		-9 tectored -
ı	hina ata	fit: 10st. That handeup weight: Ratego 9st 8th.

BETTEND: 4-1 No Pade No Gale, 9-2 Political Yower, 5-1 Minter Odd In, 7-1 Manyanan, 9-1 Westerr George, 10-1 Railagio, 12-1 Storm 1990; Port in A Storm 7 10 O Mr C Sonner 4-1 (M Hammond) 5 can

In 7-2 Recognism, when the process of the process o

10	GLENMUR FUTURE CHAMPION STANDARD OPEN NATIONAL HEINT FLAT (CLASS H) (DIV () £2,000 added 2m
11-	3000 SONG (623) (D) (Nichael H Year) C Marc 6 12 (
	RED CURRER (48) (D) (Mas M Turner & Mr C White) G McCount 6 11 11 A P McCoy SAMUEL WEDERSPIN (58) (D) (County Griptin Colou) D Nacholson 5 11 11 R Managy (S)
	SMICHS CASTLE (31) (D) (As Barbers Marchard R (75)(As an 4 11 5 R Johnson
01	SOCIETY TIMES (USA) (72) (D) (A S McPherson; D Notan 4 11 5
	BANKET FRANK FARS J Mould) N Tergon-Doves 5 11 4
	LORD OF THE RIVER (S) T Stewart Grown) O Shewood 5 11 4
	PERMISS SCENERAL K Baley 6 11 4CODAyer
	RADICAL STORM (W M. Anchesore) Charters & 11 4
	REMER MIRALICIAN (SX Martin Estates Last P Hotels 5 11 4
	THE OPERATOR Crystale States Ltd G Robert 6 11 4
	HEDIQUEENOFCLUBS (889) (Dond Langton) N Tuccon-Dunes 6 30 13
	BRADINAL MOR (Paul Ferpetrel) Martin Tochurter 4 10 17
0	DOMENTEROOK (55) (R South (104)): R Viscotrouse 4 10 12 B Gradien (S) TUNOS MEASURE (John H Wagon) J Jeffesson 4 10 12 E Callington (2)
	OH SO COSY (& Mis Raymang Amagaon Green) C Paster 4 10 12
	JOHOOCK (Mrs Doctory Thomson) Mrs D Thomson 4 10 7.
	- 20 declared -

RETTERS: 9-4 Samuel Wilderspin, 4-1 Red Cutate, 7-1 Sires Song, 2-1 Simone Castia, 9-1 Riv Muligae, 10-1 Lend Of The River, Persystem, 12-1 Eingley Beak, 14-1 Really Meatel, 20-1 others

E A	N	GLENMUIR FUTURE CHAMPION STANDARD OPEN NATION-
<u> </u>	צ	AL HUNT FLAT RACE (CLASS H) (DIV II) £2,000 added 2m
	61	#20/9620 (51) (D) (Ms Luca Farmer) K Saley 5 11 11,C O'Dayer
	1	GO NATINE (33) (D) (Trever Hermonys) Nes S Smith 5 11 11
	41	RASAK (66) (D) (Michael H Visit: Lady Hernes 5 11 11
ļ		CARLINGFORD TYNE (49) Literapy Record T Car 5 11 4
		CHOCOLATE DRAM (The Clare and Bige Partnershop) Brieft 6 11 4
		DECOUPAGE (J F Dean) C Exerton 5 11 4
•		104EALOO (& Mts Raymond Anderson Green) C Paster 5 11 4 B States
	2	NORMANIA (102) (30) (Maunce E Pens) Mass S Energis 5 12 J
	_	SIGNAMINE (Cris D Cavert) T Extraty 5 11 4
B		STEALS YER THURDER (Seen Lucy) Mrs A Broady 5 11 4
1		THE VELAGE WAY 5% Melion Estates Los D Nicholson 6 11 4
2		TIED FOR TIME Miss L Robertson) Miss H Kniere 5 11 4
3.		WILLIAM OF DRANGE (Special Reserve Racing) G Richards 5 11 4 L O'Hera
4	35	WOODFIELD VISION (42) (88) (Frackley Holdings Ltd) Mis M Reveloy 6 11 4 P Mines
5	0	GLEVIAN (26) (Mrs. J. R. Powell) N. Tweston-Davies, 5, 10, 13
6		HACK ON DA'S A E Goodwin) P Hobbs 5 10 13
7		MEEDLE THREAD (Gott Foods Limited) G Richards 5 10 13R Burns (7)
B	0	OPEN FARRWAY (26) RYANDOUTH Record M Dods 4 10 12R McGrath (5)
9	-	VALHALLA IGNESI Head House Estates Limited) M Tochunity 4 10 12 A P McCoy
5		GEM OF HOLLY IR S Woods R Word 4 10 7
-		- 20 declared -

•	HYPERION	
2.00 Hardy Dancer	4.00 Arian Da	
2.30 Ela-Aristokrsati	4.30 Alezai	-
3.00 Revogue	5.00 King Sound	
3.30 Hawksley Hill (nb)	5.30 Rainwatch	
GOONG: Good to Firm.		
STALLS: Round course - Inside; str	night course ~ centre. DRAW	ADVANTAGE: Node.
Left-hand, level course. Course is south-east of town near.	494 Bullians and to America	Array I random Baddings
ton) adjoing course, ADMISSION:	Members \$17: Tattentalis \$10	: Silver Ring \$4 (OAPs
half price) Accompanied 17-year-old	s or under litte all enclosures.	CAR PARK: Free; Pic-
nic area \$4 per car plus \$4 personal	CIL .	
LEADING TRADIERS WITH MI	NNEES: P Chapple-Hyan -	- 86 winners from 149
runners gives a success ratio of 24. den — 29 winners, 118 runners, 24	299 pmc 8 1085 to 3 2 J 1292 SI	28 wheners 903 mm.
ners, 6.68%, -£180.72; P Cole	21 winners, 177 runners, 11	.9%. +518.71.
LEADING JOCKETS: J Reid -		
- 36 winners, 188 rides, 19,1%, +	\$56.28: Pat Eddery 30 wi	nnezs, 249 rides, 12%,
-5102.24; T Quina — 29 winners,	, 234 rides, 12.4%, +£13.80	
BLINKBERD FIRST TIME: None.	Windlers of last seven i	ATS: None.

	han	n, N York	ANCE MUNNEUS; Boutess Of Brorn (3.30) sent 337m by I Bethell from Middles; Handisley Hill (3.30) sent 232m by Mrs J Ronsvier from Spreiholton, N Yorks	
	2		ERUNDON RECYCLE HANDICAP (CLASS D) £8,000 added 1m 2f Penalty Value £6,353	
	1	110150	ROCKFORCE (28) (is 2 Mize) M Chennon 5 10 0	
•	5	34250	REWAL SERTION (19) #305 (Armirester Carpens) Mrs N Durfield 8 9 13 D Holland 20 82	
.	ã	3260-22	VOLA VIA (USA) (7) (8 M Smart) Baking 4 9 11 L Detical 15 95	
	lă	112230-	SHAFT OF LIGHT (184) (b) (The Queen) Lord Hamington 5 9 11	
1	5	14162-0	DOCKLANDS LINO 2191 CO Max Lisa Clevi B McMath 4 9 11T Colon 12 90	
	Ŕ	113500.	DBEST TOWE (USA) (177) (IA Kainstury Parmershic) J Hills 4 9 11	
- 1	17	30503-0	SERENDEMTY (FR) (19) (C) C) R R Partnership) B R Willman 4 9 11 W J O'Comour 4 8X	
	là	431/	BAY OF ISLANDS (1988) (D) (Biconstury Stud) D Monte 5 9 8	
	9	20401D-	EDAN HEIGHTS (181) (CD) (TR Mountain) S Day 5 9 8	
1	10	111215-	PISTOL 2240 86s B Sunner) C Honson 7 9 8	
	. 11	1-30100	PUNKAN QUSA) 48) 40) 8McCourt Fine Misses G McCourt 4 9 7	
	122	/6504B	MYRTLE QUEST (21) (May M Shedde) R Chadon 597T Speake 22 -	
	13	4522	ENNED SPLENDOUR (191) (Andy Holder) Lady Herlins 4 9 6	
: 1	14	00060-5	WARDY CANCER (19) (BF) (Peter L. Haton) G L. Moore 5 9 5	
٠,	15	580300/	VIRTUAL REALITY (548) (D) (Ash Partnership) J Toller 6 9 3	
	16	815680-	SHEER EXAMPLE (177) (D) (D) (A Albert) P Makes 5.9 1	
i	17	6/420-	OPALETTE (198) (Argunetric Park Sturi) Lacy Herriss 4.9.1	
1	18	52312-1	AMAK KU (19) (D) (Sultan Abroad State) Miss G Kellevay 4 9 1	
	19	316110-	ASSEM HILL (186) (D) (Afex Megel Tuired) R Rose 6 9 0	
	20	0253-03	PAY HOMANIE (7) (Mass A V Hill) Beiding 9 8 13	
	21	044020-	FLETCHER (191) (Ludy Hargadale) H Morreon 3 8 13	1
ı	22	100040-	GREEN BOPPER (USA) (177) (JP M & JW Cook) C Mortock 4 B 13	
- 1	_		OR Justinesia	

12-100 Process of the Control of FORM GUIDE

Af the better for his opening run this season when fifth of 20 to Romos in the Rosebery at Kempton, MARDY DANCER can show the way home here. He had some useful form in 1995 when he won his first two starts, at Leleaster and Kempton, and has dropped down in the weights as a result of firshing unpieced on his lest eight outrugs in 1996. The selection holds Royal Seaton and Docideads Lisse, who finished ninth and 17th of 20 in the Rosebery, though Royal Seaton, becleared then, will strip titter today. Vols Va, who has finished number up in his two races this term, behind Mad Militant and Angel Face both at Warweld, can again figure with Frankle Dettor booked. The four-year-old had stablements Pay Homeiga more then byo lengths back in third on the latter occasion and the pair men on identical terms. Placel scored four times in 1996, all under today's ricer Paul Etchery, and can go well despite his 225-day absence.

1	gespine his 225-day adsence.	Semcion: PARI	OF DATACE
	2.30 LANES END JOHN PORTER STAK (Group 3) £30,000 Im 4f Pen Ve		
ł	1 311320 SACRAMENT (132) (C) (Chantey Park Stuck M Str	UE: 6 9 3WR S#	3 11 3 11
4	2 211621 MONGOL WANDSON (180) (I) (I) de Namicoeste) L	ori Huntingdon 492D Mi	andario 7 -
٠	3 212221. SALMON LADOER (USA) (175) (CD) (M AND) P.C.	de 5 9 1	dec 11 11
. 1	4 5/02423- ELA-AMESTONINATI (224) (Anches Michael) M Tom	plens 5 & 12	hrane 2 11
	5 0/12/104- ELECTION DAY-(163) (C) (Lord Worstock) M Stout	25812K	April 9 11
ł	8 81.0122 NUTTA (1811) (C) Plancian N Maldount R Amainte	g 5 8 12	JEE 10 11
J	7 112233- LORD JM (167) (0) (No. 8 Y Thomas Lord Human	tion 5 8 12 Dane O'Ne	# 12 V 10
1	8 15 AR OUEST (347) ICI (K Abdulah) R Charles 481	1Pet i	Soldery 5 9
	9 123330- CHEF CONTEMDED (175) (D) (Me John Magner)	P Checole-Heen 4.8 11	J Radi 8 11
	10 21511-3 PROPER BLUE (USIO (19) (M) Leggl T Miles 4 8 1	1\$\$	mins 1 12
.	11 464135- SAMERAM (MEA) (202) (CD) (K M A-Machel) Du	don 48 11	ettori 6 12
-	12 181238 - BENECHAMP INDE (202) (D) (E Persent) H Cently !	89C	antier 4.10
4	13 164524 WHITEWATER AFFINE (LTD) () IN Greaters in St	BARA DP	der 13 11
	73 TOUTS - MINISTERVIEW LEADING (************************************	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	
1	DESTRUCTION CONCRETE, 7.2 Suprame, 4.1 Secretors, 9.3 Sub-	non Lecidor, 13-2 Kulfa, I	Rd Ba-Ark

6,10-1 Bection Day, 12-1 Proper Sine, 14-1 Air Quest, Chief Contact 6air, 23-1 Lord 🌬 1998: Street 4 8 8 T Sarake 8-1 (R Charlton) 9 ran

-1	大学のできたとうというないというというないというない。
and didn't con strength to wis by beating full and distance, wood. Paul Co fitter than ludd ment a neck to while he can a Lager third Sa George V haird cott will be sho	FORM GUIDE DER, tenth in Lammbara's Derby, was later operated on for a wind problem on into its our until he was a four-year-old last tenth, going from strength to four times. Sent up to Hamilton for the first of those victories, he wound up to three pens of a length in the Group Three St Simon Stakes over course within in between thicse wins he landed valuable handicaps at Ascot and Good-le's charge went well in his Nampson gallop and he regist be just that little bit as, who has a 350 pull compared to the St Simon. Salmon Ladder found Sacro-ogood in the September Stakes but can reverse that enthough worse of 380, gain best Sta-Aristologia (neck away third). Also holding sound claims is St tenass, another who regoved a great 1995 with four wins, including the King dicep at Royal Ascot. Coming from John Dunlop's stable, the Green Dancer up anough. The going might be too fixely for Election Day, who had out in an successful over further here test term.

	_		-
Ė	3.00	TRIPLEPRINT GREENHAM STAKES (CLASS A) (Group 3) £30,000 3YO 7f Penalty Value £19,500	В
1	1-14	HAYES WAY (28) (Non E Ward) T Mills 9 C	7
2	13231-	IN COMMAND (183) (D) Maksum A Malasum) B Hills 9 0	•
3	<u> 132117</u> -	MUCHEA (198) (Alphon Investments) M Charmon 9 0	_
4	1111-	REVOQUE (186) (D) (R E Sangstar) P Chappie-Hyam 9 0	- [
5	1320-	THE WEST (USA) (183) 6HRH Prince Fond Salmen) P Cale 9 0	ı
6	41-	YALAETANEE (239) (D) (Asiabum A) Malabum) M Stouts 9 0	•
		- 6 declared -	1

— o secureur — BETANC: 9-13 Aeroque, 7-2 in Command, 11-2 Michies, 7-1 The West, 12-1 Yalaistanen, 33-1 Hayes Way 1996: Danerill Dancer 3 9 0 Par Edday evens Di Calagdam) 8 ran FORM GUIDE Interest Danet Danet 3 9 0 Pet Ecology even in Categorn's 8 min FORM CRIDE
Unbeaten after four runs as a juvenile, RENDOULE, second fevourite for the 2,000 Guineas, is reported in good shape and should retain his 100 per cent record. Thereof by Peter Chappie Hyam, who won this with Turtle Island (1994), Renoque went in at Ascot last July on his introduction and followed up in the Acord States at York, while he scored by three lengths from The West in the Pirt de la Satemandre over today's min at Ascot last July on his detail the following month, in Commissal was also a smart, Youngster. An impressive winner at the gloodwood meeting on his debut, Barry Hills' handsome cot was pisced in his next three runs before coming good again in the Group One Devirunt at Newmarket on his final appearance, gamely messening Musicale Pussalt by a head. Over this extra furion, in Command can reverse running with Musches, who finished a length in front of him when they fisied the places behind Bahamian Bourty in the Middle Park. Having said that, Muches was the epicome of consistency as a juvenile and will run his usual honest race, Yalhietanes showed the benefit of his debut fourth to Blue River at Newmarket as August when justifying favouritism on the same course a formight letter and should do we'll this year.

Selection: REVOQUE

2 30 LADBROKES SPRING CUP (HANDICAP) (CLASS INCLAS)
3.30 LADBROKES SPRING CUP (HANDICAP) (CLASS B) £25,000 1m Penalty Value £18,075
1 32644 CADEMENTERST (181) (b) phintourn Al Malaburat E Durtop 5 10 0 D O'Dracelose (5) 10 106
2 3/1446-6 LONELY LENDER (30) (Selen Suhal) R Harmon 4 9 12
3 014040 MARALINGA (133) (D K R & Mrs. J B C Oliver) Larly Hernes 5 9 12 Decima 0'Shee 13 108
4 1/22150 ALMOND ROCK (198) (CD) (CT) Racing Ltd.) Farishave 5 9 8
5 5210- UNITUS (263) (Shelin Mohammed) M Strute 4 9 7 1 Rold 2 97
6 100- LIONZE (USA) (183) (H Tabot P Chapple-Hyam 4 9 6
7 82510-2 WOMRSLEY HILL (28) (D) (BF) (PR C Mortson) New J Remaden 4 9 6 Fortune 17 105
8 22124-0 GRAND MUSICA (28) (Afect 3 Record) Balding 4.9.4
9 \$416-41 XUALA LUPIS (DSA) (28) (D) (HSH) Suban Ahmed Shah) P Cole 4 9 4T Quine 15 104
10 16/6040- ALABRAO (200) (About Recine Partners J Hills 4 9 4 Mr Hills 5 103
11 S0000-3 BAND ON THE RON (20) 60 (D.) Alen) B MoMshon 10 9 2
12 11005-0 SRY DOME (26) (D) (Mess D) Messon) M Tompkins 4 B 13
13 02155- GD BRIDNING (252) (D) (S Risby) D Loder 4 B 13 L Delton 4 101
14 08401-5 KMA SURESE (28) (0) (A F Needfart) C Smith 4 8 12
15 206001 SALFAN (188) (D) (Mrs L Brodi) D Mont 8 8 12
18 52/130- MEDIEVAL LADY (189) (3 (Summeree Stud) Balting 4 8 12
17 24135- PORZA PICLIO (282) (D) (Cat) Partnershop Miss G Kelleway 4 8 12 D Paeller 3 105
18 21.3- YMIDA (2005) (D) (Lord Weinstock) R Creation 4 8 12Pek Eddery 16 102
19 03300-0 HUNCERS OF BROBA (28) (D) (Robert Globons) J Bernell 7 8 11
20 50-2812 SECRETALY (CAM) (19) (B) (B) Work) C Bettain 7 B 11
- 20 declared -
SETTING: 13-2 Handsday HEL, S-1 Kanda Lipts, 9-1 Sky Dome, 10-1 Kata Suarica, Unites, Yalta, 12-1
Go Britannia, Husters Of Bross, 14-1 M Abress, Cadanax Treet, Medieval Ledy, 15-1 Abroud Rock,

SETURCE 13-2 Hambeley MBL 3-1 Kinth Links, 9-1 Sky Dome, 10-1 Main Samries, Maltes, Yalta, 12-1 for Britanella, Hunters Of Brows, 34-1 M Ahran, Cadeson: Tiyet, Medicael Lody, 15-1 Ahrand Rock, Grand Blackae, Unatins, Secret My, 24-1 Bead On the Ross, Lamely Lander, 25-1 others.

1998: Royal Philosopher 4 8 13 M HRs 25-1 (J Hills) 20 am.

FORMA CRUBE
Inched out by Kumfa Libbs (who read the adventage of an all-westher run two weeks before) in the Lincoln, HAWKSLEY HRLL cus awengs that deflect on a pound better terms, while ha should confirm the form with Kala Sameles, Sky Doma, Hunters Of Broca and Grand Blastica, who were in arrears. Hawksley HB had a trementious season in 1996, challong up six wirds and four seconds. Hunters Of Broca encountered trouble in numming on Towar Moor except for which she would have inhelted closer and she might make the faunre this time. Cadesons. Tryst gained his single success of last season in Turkey, winding up with a faunth to sheight some December Season of Jahr Season in Turkey, winding up with a faunth to sheight some December Season of Jahr Season half a length by Star Mentager et Sandown first time up a year ago and also come per time, came good at Repon in August. However, he was unplaced on has two subsequent runs, including when beating only two home in the 36-runner Cambridgeshes with Hawkskey Hill avent length so in front of him in several. Numbers, after a neck second to Belladur over today's trip at Windsor in July, stormed home by five lengths at Kempton (1m 2f headen). His runnving when tailed off behind St Mawes in the Gordon States over a mile and a half at Goodwood on July 30 was too bad to be true.

Selections: HAWKSLEY HILL

4.00	NETI D) £!	ERAVON	MEDIAN A	UCTION Miles Sf 34vd	AIDEN STAN	CES (CLASS alue £3,818
	ARIAN Burne	DA (16) (1 Han NG LOWE (Miss	miton-Jones) (3 P Ljuliet E Read) J	alling 8 11 S Moone 8 11		
4 5	DODE (Crossroads DFF (N Ahemed	(A F Memili) R H D R Hannon 8 13	arnon (5 11 1		
7 5 8	PHONE	AL DANCER (1 ALEX (1 B R)	1) (The Piccolo i elsure 11d) R Her		eti 8 11	D Holland 7 Pat Eddery 2 R Perham 4
10 11 12 0	RING T	HE RAFTERS (The Quaeni I Bai	ding 8 11 B 8 Meenan 8 1	1	1 Detied 12 B Doyle 3 M Heary (3) 9

- 12 declared SETUNA: 5-2 Claysmia, 100-30 Phone Alex, 7-2 Ring The Rathers, 8-1 Azian De, 16-1 See in The Horning, 12-1 Face-01, 14-1 Barning Love, Hamers, Duble Crostroade, 20-1 others 1996: Cherry Bossom 2 8 11 Pat Edday 6-5 (R Hannor) 7 ran

14	30	BOB ROLEY SUTH BERTHDAY MAIDEN STAKES	(CLASS D) (DI
	<u>~~</u> j	I) £4,300 added 3YO 1m Penalty Value £3	,428
1	2-	ALEZAL (178) (Howard Spooner) W Jerus 9 ()	
2	40-	BEGORRAT (198) (R A Bernest) B Meeten 9 ()	B Doyle 1
3		BLEWBURY FELL (Anthony Pye-Jean) R Johnson Houghton 9 0	
4		CHEF MONARCH Mass N Jeford B Smart 9 D	
5	3	FOREIGN RULE (19) (R E Sangsier) P Chauple-Hyam 9 0	
B	•	CREEK PALACE (Lord Weinstock) M Szoute 9 0	W R Swieborn
7		LECENDARY LOVER (Maron Myers) R Charlton 9 D	
è	Æ	MEMORISE RUSA) (173) (K Abodein) H Cecil 9 0	
ē	-	MISTRAL LORD & F George Facing M Madancis 9 0	
10		MOCHSHIFT (Seeed Suitab M Stoute 9 0	
ī		MOWELEA (Hearnonds Stud) Lady Herres 9 0	Paul Eddery
12	R4L	PRAEDITUS (177) (B A Kilpatrick) R Hannon 9 0	
13	- 0	PREMIER ECLIPSE (10) (Twike Gams) P Hamis 9 0	Pat Eddary 1
14	-	RASHEK (Hamdan Al Maktoum) W R Hem 9 0	
15		RIMER PLOT (Lady Redrected) R Charles 90	
16		SMART NOD BIRSH Suitan Altmod Strath) P Cole 9 0	T Outen 1
17		WALKABOUT OF ANDLESH'S B HER 90	M Hills 1/
		- 17 declared -	
Œ	MR: 5-2	Alexai, 9-2 Foreign Rule, 11-2 Memories, 7-1 Greak Palace, 8-1 :	Speart Kild, 10-1 Walf

ot, 12-1 Legendary Lover, Russills, River Pilet, 14-1 Preschina, 16-1 Movedga, 20-1 oth 8: Nesh House 3 9 0 J Red 4-9 (P Chapple-Hyam) 14 ran

[5.00	ARLINGTON INTERNATIONAL RACECOURSE STAKES (CLAS B) £12,000 added 3YO 1m 2f Penalty Value £7,962	9
1	413-	KONIG SCHUND (1999 (C3 (Shelich Michgemener)) Gosden 9 1	ľ
2	213-	FALAK (USA) (197) (Hamden Al Makeoum) W R Hem 8 13	. 7
ž	1.2	MERSEY BEAT (48) (D) (K Hagos) G L Moore 8 11	Ħ
ā	3.1	AMERSMILE (USA) (19) (Shelki) Mohammedi J Gostlen 8 11	1
5	555600-	OUT OF SIGHT (1.61) (D.) Alleni B McMahon B 11 \$ Specient	ı
Ē	3412-	ROYAL AMARETTO (177) (The Hanegun Partnership) & Mechan 8 11	4
Ŧ	1	SINGLE EMPIRE (19) 4 K Collegy P Chapple-Hyorn 8 11	J
ġ	<u> </u>	SOPHOMORE (176) (K Abdula) B His 8 11Pat Eddery	ŧ
ğ	21.	APACHE STAR (173) (A E Oppenhemen G Wrage 8 6	E
	213503	RADIEDANICINE (21) (A Hoyes) R Horron B 6	3
-		- 10 declared -	
æ	TRE-21	Royal America, 5-2 King Societ, 11-2 Felok, Manazille, 13-2 Single Empire, 7-1 Soph	0
		aindencing, 12-1 Apache Star, 20-1 others	

1990: Hen Barroue 3 8 13 J Red 9-1 (P Cheople-Hyem) 5 ran

Z (SUI	BOB RILEY 50TH BIRTHDAY MAIDEN STAKES (C	TV22 n) (ni.
<u> </u>	~	E) £4,300 added 3YO 1m Penalty Value £3,4	128
Ĺ	5-3	ABAUARY (25) (John Whote and Partners) M (Treation 9 ()	PP Marphy (同)
2	60-	BOLD SHATT (224) (Sharing Force) P Harris 9 0	W R Sulaban !
•	-	BORDER FALCON (Sir William Purver) Balding 9 0	
í		DALLIANCE (Shelft) Mohammet) M Stouts 9 0	
Š		GOLDEN SADDLE (USA) (Thomas T S Lisney P Cole 9 0	
		HEVER GOLF GLORY Chaver Racing Club! 7 J Naughton 9 0	S Senders 4
,		ISLAND SANCTUARY (Dr Carice E Stelling P Major 9 0	J Fortune
	n.	KHAFAAO (177) (Handen Al Makeum) W R Hem 9 0	
•	•	MANUAL R. RISAL (Hamdan Al Maktourn) J Gooden 9 D.	D title 1
, ID		MUSTIC RIDGE (\$25) (Nes Arne Couption) D Essenti 9 ()	
1	-	POLISHED STEEL (Maksourn Al Maksourn) Lady Henres 9 0	Parker News 4
9	-	BARWATCH (211) (Hesmonds Study) During 9 0	ن وورون والمحروب
3	3-	ROYALE FINALE (173) (Water Sect) H Cool 9 ()	K Fallon :
4		TEME VALLEY (K Abdullari) R Chargon 9 0	
5		GOOD REPUTATION (R E Sangarar) B Hills 8 9	
is	٥.	INTERREGIONA (274) (Report At Leisure Partnership) A Foster 8.9	
_	•	= 16 declared =	

BETTING: PORECAST: 5-2 Relevance, 9-2 Manualle, 5-1 Royal Finale, 6-1 Border Felcos, Good Researce, 10-1 Dallieuce, Golden Saddle, Wadner, 12-1 Tome Valley, 14-1 Abejuny, 20-1 ethers 1996: see da-son one

:	
	HYPERION 2.20 Cantain Riss 2.50 Surprise Mission 3

3.20 Venture Capitalist 3.50 Pearl Venture 4.20 Starborough 4.50 in Good Nick 5.20 Three Arch COING: Good to Plem (Good in places).

GOING: Good to Pirm (Good in pisces).

STALLS: Straight a stands side; round course - inside.

DRAW ADVANTAGE High for \$i and \$i.

Laft-hand course, lovel but quite sharp.

Course is W of town on Ad I. Third; station im. ADMUSSIO ECourse is W of town on A&I. Trinds station lm. ADMISSIONs. Clab 512; Taxiersalls 58 (CAP's 54); Pandly Enclosure 58 (CAP's 51,50). Accompanied under-16s free. CAR PARTS: Family Enclosure 58 per car including up to four adults plus all children; remainder free.

RUNGERED FIRST TIME: Captain Blice (2.30), Diamond Stove (visored) (2.20). WINNERS IN THE LAST SEVEN DAYS: Angel Fact (6.20) won at Warwick on Samrany.

LONG-DISTANCE EUNNERS: Hered (4.50) sent 295 miles by Miss Gay Kelloway from Whitcombe, Do

220 KNAYTON CLAIMING STAKES (CLASS F) £3,500 added 270,5f 43 CAPTRIAN BLISS (5) (BE) N Tinter 9.3 Almose Chark (5) 2.8 MAILINES IN M. Eversph 8.3 —— MAILINES IN M. Eversph 8.3 —— ...Doh Gibeon 5 CRAFTY PET R Fahey 8 12 9 Parlish (5) : CARROTTON KING W G M Tuner 8 9...... SKIPPOOL CRESK (14) T Easterly 8 8

5 ELISMANON (14) J Bory 8 6. 0 DAYNABLE (14) N Tinker 8 2 . 12 REF. BY TURN NEW ACCIDENTS —
BETTERS: 11-4 Effectives, 7-2 Capture Rise, 5-1 My Set. 6-1 Camarina Ring, 10-1 Stippool Creek, 12-1 Disented Stave, Crafty Fet, Res in Your — 12-4 West-Yose, Toffs Times, Doyanboo, 20-1 Camaril Joey 2.50 THOMAS LORD HANDICAP (CLASS C) £10,000 added 5f

				_
.20	MICHAEL (CLASS C	FOSTER) £10,000	MEMORIAL added 6f	S
	YERRE CHY	(ALIST (28) (CI	97 D Nords 897 /	k

104 RAZI (CTG) D (color 3 8 6 X Conte) 215 SOVET SIXTE (141) (D) ? Crapta Hyam 9 8 6 R Harda (S) 222153 YOUNG BROWG (227) (D) J Barry 3 8 3 X G Conter

-8 declared -BETTMG: 5-2 Works Ma, 11-4 Venture Capitalist, 5-1 Sead, 6-1 Sea Dom 7-1 Young Bigaig, 8-1 Soviet State, 10-1 Westcourt Magic, 18-1 Create G 3.50 RACING CHANNEL LIMITED STAKES (CLASS E) £4,100 added 1m 4f

ETTRIC: 9-4 Louistugiosuralnipus, 7-2 Millo Valley, 4-1 Custant Pighter, 5-1 niry Knight, 6-1 Pour Venture, 7-1 Contradire, 12-1 Sancher Inck, 14-1 Knitak 4.20 THERSK CLASSIC TRIAL STAKES (CLASS B) £15,000 added 3YO 1m 211. BEDGNAB (USA) (178) D Mortey 9 5 ____ 213522. CHANAR ROYALE (250) T Barron 8 0 ____ 134. STARBOROUGH (177) (C) D Loder 9 0 ___

BETTHE: FORECAST: 5-4 Starborough, 11-8 Julikanis, 4-1 Caviar Royale

.5	4	.50	BYLAND RATING RELATED MAIDEN STAKES (CLASS F) £3,500 added 7f
11	1		STAR OF RING (872) M Histon-Bits 4 9 10
12	2	530	CARREANSA (158) J L Eyro 4 9 7
4	3	506000	NADADABBLE (152) Pat Machell 4 9 7
8	4	D0-3308	HAZEL (35) Mes Gay Helleney 5 9 7
	Ś	M45M	SANTELLA KATTE (100) Was L Shibbs 497 M. Rissmer 11.
13			SERAPE CAG Mrs L Sables 4 9 7
đ			
5		*******	SMSS COAST (17) N Triber 3 B 11
7	8	03000	BENTICHNIG LADY (175) D Attuting 388
•	9		DANCE MELODY (159) G Ottoyd 3 8 8
_	10	043040-	HONG KING EXPRESS (231) / Beny 3 & 8P Fessey (5) 8
۸,	11	30 G5-0	TH GOOD NECK (S) M W Easterby 3 & 8 & Parkin (5) 9 B
			- 11 declared -
	BET	DIAL POR	CAST: 3-1 Bendering Lady, 7-2 in Good Wick, 4-1 Carneswis,
S	5-1	Ster Of R	et, 6-1 Hong Kong Express, 6-1 Hazel, 10-1 others
_			
	16	20	LEAL BOWING UMUNICAL (CITY22 D)
4		-20	LEVY BOARD HANDICAP (CLASS D) £5,000 added filles 1m
8			BLESSED SPERIT (194) (D) C Wal 4 10 D A Culture 12
ž			ANGEL FACE (USA) (7) P Bans 4 9 10 F From 13
7	3		CROSSEM (360) R Holinshead 4 9 8 I bunch (3) 7
5			SYLVAN PROJESS (14) (D) D Cospore 4 8 5 JM Rimmer 14
7			CASHMERE LADY (29) (b) J L Evre 5 9 4R Lappin 11

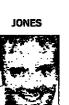
5 4450-00 CARRAMERE LADY (29) (D) J L Eyro 5 9 4 _____R Lappin 31 6 040010 TREE NOT-RELOCK (Q, Q, Q) MUTTERTS 91 Date Microsco 38 7 2000-00 LA VOLDA (LQ) FROGENING 4 9 1 ______ (Quire 15 2002-10-6 REST OF AUL, [9] (D) J Bony 5 8 12 ______ K Danity 5 8 9 348 9 PERFECT POPPY (40) J Partis too 3 8 9 _____ K Vanity 6 0 5200 CHORUS 5004 (175 P Chapple-Hyam 3 8 6 ____ R Havilin (3) 4 11 342390 LBLINGLIA (215) Mrs J Rometin 4 8 5 ____ 5 Drommo 2 2 4415-0 LBESHO 6F ARRADON (11) J Clover 3 8 1 ____ 6 Datited 6 13 210-84 NARSH MARGULO (RB) (RF) J Heitreum 3 7 10 _L Chemoch 1 14 03-1550 RALLARD LADY (39) (D) J Malmong 5 7 10 J Ryambin (5) 15 50-2341 DAMMOND EYRE (57) J L Eye 3 7 10 _____ R Malsien (6) 9 ____ 18 polyment —

Minimum weight; 7st 10th. True hending weights: Battart Lady 7st 9th, Dismont Eye 73 40. BETTING: 3-1 Sylvan Princess, 4-1 Times Arch Bridge, 11-2 Augul Face, 6-1 Best Of All, Bleesed Sylvis, 8-1 Chosen Song. Perfect Pappy, 12-1 others

Defending the numbers game



ROY EVANS' CONTINENTAL PROACH: WING-BACKS AND CENTRE-BACKS







Many and varied. Stig Inge Bjornebye is the left wing-back and, until Wednesday, when he was replaced by Rob Jones, Jason McAteer was on the right. Mark Wright and Bjorn Tore Kvarme are regulars in the centre with Dominic Matteo, Steve Harkness, Phil Babb and Neil Ruddock competing for the third spot.

Width going forward, good support for midfield, strong in defensive centre.

Weaknesses

Vulnerable on the flanks, needs athletic wing backs, temptation to defend

Flexibility

Good since Jones' return as McAteer would struggle defensively as a conventional full-back. Harkness can play on the flanks while the other central defenders all have experience of playing in a four.



Glenn Moore analyses the different tactical approaches Liverpool and Manchester United will use in today's vital Premiership match at Anfield



oy has three, though it is sometimes five and he is thinking of four. Alex has

strength and width to combat Wimbledon's power and mobil-ity in last week's FA Cup semitried five but prefers four. Arsene has five but wants four - while Ruud and Martin nominally bave five but change to four on special occasions

surprising, we are talking tactics, defensive tactics, and even the people who are supposed to operate them can be left bewil-Clarke, who recently recalled Chelsea's preparation for an FA Cup tie at Bristol City. "We were playing a sweeper system as Graham Roberts was back from suspension so we spent an hourand-a-half in the hotel the evening before working out our tactics with a Subbuteo board. It didn't work - but we would have beaten them at Subbuteo."

To some it is all gobbledegook, football is about players, their heart and their art. It may have been once, but in the modern game organisation is required as well, especially in defence. This morning's crucial match between Liverpool and Manchester United illustrates the development of defensive strategy.

English defences used to be cast in the same mould. Two hard-as-nails full-backs who put their wingers in the gravel track with the first tackle, a beefeating stopper who battered the centre-forward, and his Brylcreemed sidekick, almost as big, almost as nasty, but more mobile.

No longer - because foreign habits have intruded. While Alex Ferguson's Manchester United play four at the back, Liverpool have gone Continental with three in the centre and wingbacks making up a five when under pressure.

Not that either are totally convinced. Ferguson tried playing five, with a view to Europe. in the pre-season build-up two years ago. They trotted out for the opening game against Aston Villa and were 3-0 down by the interval. They reverted to four and have stuck to it ever since. with wing-backs at Liverpool, is now reconsidering in the aftermath of the Paris St-Germain

There are other waverers. In recent weeks, both Raud Gullit's Chelsea and Martin O'Neill's Leicester City have changed lems. Gullit wanted defensive

final, O'Neill wanted a base from which Pontus Kamark could man-mark Juninho in the Coca-Cola Cup final.

ial occasions.

Both changes worked, but Confused? It would not be Evans is unlikely to make such a fundamental switch today. The summer is the time for that, as Arsène Wenger, a fan of the four, decided when he arrived at dered by the jargon. Ask Steve Highbury in mid-season. But who is right?

In theory playing three/five provides the flexibility to win the numbers game in midfield, the key area of modern football. Ideally one of the central three has the ball skills to step into midfield, with or without the ball, while his partners mark. Those players need to be capable of lying in the centre where reading the game and serial strength are paramount, and on the flanks

RACE FOR THE TITLE P W D L F A Pts 33 19 9 5 66 38 66 ___34 18 9 7 57 28 **6**3

ining fixtures Manchester United

where mobility and quick-footedness are needed.

This is one reason why United prefer a four, their central de-fenders. David May and Gary Pallister, are uncomfortable in wide areas, as Pallister showed when playing for England in Norway and May in his unhappy period at right-back. If United changed systems, one of them would have to be left out. A very few genuine sweepers. Mark ever, have a three/five. Wright and Dominic Matteo at Liverpool, but neither are in the Matthias Sammer class.

The wing-backs provide width in midfield when going forward and protection on the flanks when defending. They need to be athletic, adept at going forward but also defensively aware. Dan from their customary five to a Petrescu is the best example in four to deal with special prob- the Premiership, David Ginola probably the worst due to his

defensive inadequacies and positional indiscipline. Liverpool have Stig Inge Bjornebye, a defender, and, usually, Jason McAteer, an attacking midfielder, on the flanks. Both are athletic and good crossers.

Liverpool are generally sound defensively, their recent lapses are down to poor concentration and David James' handling errors. Their problem is going forward, but that may stem from the back. Wenger believes the system

delays a passing team, as Arsenal are becoming and Liverpool are, when attacking. "The problem is you defend deeper," he said, "and though you have more security in the centre you are less dangerous offensively on the wings.
"I would like to attack and de-

fend in a higher position. When you defend deep it is a problem because you need five, six, eight passes on the way to goal and that is a long way to go, especially on a narrow pitch like Highbury. If a team defends well, you sometimes need to find a way in the air instead. We might go to a four next year."

The four is not really a four, it is an eight as the midfield are interlinked. The central midfielders, in United's case Rov Keane and Nicky Butt, protect Pallister and May, while the wide men cover the full-backs it was said Sammy Lee extended Phil Neal's career at Liverpool by five years.

United's wide men. David Beckham and Ryan Giggs, though attacking by nature, are expected to do their share of graft - witness Gary Neville bawling out Beckham in Dortmund after he let Jörg Heinrich go past him on the overlap to create a chance for Andy Möller.

The irony is that English teams, like Liverpool, Chelsea, Aston Villa and the national team, have adopted a three/five just as many foreign clubs have turned to 4-4-2. Milan, Juventus, problem with this system for and now even the Netherlands. English teams is that there are play that way. Germany, how-

Perhaps it is down to the vested so much faith in playing have done a reasonable job of it ers. Wenger again: "There is no perfect system. The best system s the one suited to the players you have. That is why some managers could be wrong in picking the system first - that can be done if you create your own team but when you arrive somewhere you have

to adapt to the players. "The right system is the one in which everybody in the team feels he can express his qualities.



TRADITIONAL LOOK: FLAT BACK-FOUR









<u>Personnel</u>

Gary Neville, David May, Gary Pallister and Denis Irwin are the first-choice quartet. Ronnie Johnsen, who will come in today if May's injury has not recovered, is the long-term replacement for Pallister and Phil

Provides good cover across the field with a clear demarcation of

Needs protective midfield, can be caught square, vulnerable to ball over the

Limited. The Nevilles could play anywhere in either system but Pallister and

Model goalkeeper is looking naked in the penalty area

When the Kop hailed him as "Armani's No 1", David James was playing so well that his secondary career on the catwalk was a cause for quips rather than qualms. A year on, with his catalogue of errors growing as thick as the Next Directory, he is more readily perceived as a goalkeeping model than a mode! goalkeeper.

It started up on Teesside and it will probably end in tears for Liverpool, if there is any repetition when Manchester United visit Anfield in today's potential Premiership decider. Early in January's game at Middlesbrough. James sent a clearance straight to Craig Hignett. who scored to send his former while on the way out of the Coca-Cola Cur.

The trickle turned into a torrent. Three horrendous gaffes

at home to Newcastle - a misjudged dive, hesitation and a fatal foray into no-man's land. all in the last 20 minutes - nearly cost Liverpool a win that had

appeared a formality. Afterwords, James admitted spending eight hours in his house playing computer games prior to the match, leading to possible blurred vision. To think managers used to worry about players going out...

The following Saturday his fumble of a cross far from his line allowed Nottingham Forest to retrieve a point. The trait resurfaced in Norway, even though Liverpool beat SK Brann, and again, embarrass-ingly, when Coventry struck twice from corners for an unlikely away win.

James then gifted two goals to Paris St-Germain. Rumour



had it he was standing for the Referendum Party: well, he was trying to take Liverpool out of Europe. And in Wednesday's derby at Everton, his habit of coming for crosses he has no hope of claiming provoked a sardonic "What's it like to catch

Bizarrely, in the middle of these weeks of living recklessly, James made his England debut

David James (left) may have the 'yips' but with no credible replacement his place is safe. United have the experience of Raimond van der Gouw (right) to call upon. Phil Shaw reflects on the recent costly calamities of Liverpool's (and Armani's) No 1

the ball?" from both sets of supporters when he finally took

against Mexico. Not since

Stewart Kennedy let in five for near-calamitous moments Scotland in 1975 has Wembley which left Mark Wright looking seep a keeper wrap himself

around the woodwork so often. To many, James' hapless handling looks like a footballing equivalent of "the vips" in golf where nerves wreak havoc with a player's putt. Others detect the opposite flaw, an over-confidence which makes him incapable of taking advice.

It is not mere fence-sitting to suggest the truth lies in between. Goodison, after several

as if he could have strangled him. James made a staggering save. There was nothing more certain than that he would come for and collect the resulting corner. Fired up, he

He may be James of the giant reach but his principal talent remains shot-stopping; he is arguably Britain's best when acting on instinct. Yet if judgement is called for - when he has

did precisely that.

time to think - he becomes Pat Jennings in reverse

Nor, unlike David Seaman or Nigel Martyn, is he a phlegmatic, safety-first keeper. They exude presence much as Gor-don Banks and Peter Shilton did. When a forward was through one-on-one against Shilton, they were confronted by an aura as much as by an indi-vidual. Even at 6ft 5in, James does not appear so imposing. Part of the problem may stem

trust between James and his defenders is damaged, no one is advocating that either should take over like David Harvey did

from Gary Sprake when Leeds were pursuing the "double" 25 years ago or as Les Sealey, on loan from Luton, did from Jim Leighton in Manchester United's FA Cup final replay lineup in 1990. Today, Alex Ferguson may

have to field Raimond van der Gouw, who came to United with a sound pedigree in Dutch

Ogrizovic and Mike Hooper

provided for Ray Clemence

and Bruce Grobbelaar. The

untested Tony Warner is James'

theoretical deputy, while Roy Evans has also been able to call

on a Dane, Jorgen Nielsen,

In spite of signs that the

ince last month.

not have the back-up Steve football to succeed the experienced Tony Coton as Peter Schmeichel's understudy. Evans has no comparable alternatives. While Schmeichel is far from infallible, as Derby demon-

strated this month, he combines technique and presence, judgement and hatred of conceding a goal in ineasures his Anfield counterpart has yet to achieve on a consistent basis. Crucially, he can also shrug off a blunder in a way James seems unable to

Giorgie Armani described David James as an extraordinary looking man". Were Antield's No 1 to develop a temperament to complement his stature and reflexes, he could also become an extraordinary keeper. At 26 he still has time. Liverpool's needs are

Lilley are poised to

Newcastie v Derby

UOTES OF THE WEEK

He reduced this golf course to nothing. Jack Nicklaus on Tiger Woods' Masters victory. 📕 Tiger has never met anyone as mentally strong as himself and he never will. Woods' (ather, Earl.) It dan't realise Jake was there. it was like a shadow going past. Liz McColgan, besten by one second in the London Marathon

by Joyce Chepchumba. It makes you feet like they are conspiring against you. Liverpool were the worst. They saw it as their main chance. Alex Ferguson, Manchester United manager, suspecting a plot behind the Premier League's refusal to extend the season. I told them all – the butlers,

the chambermaids, everybody to have the day off and to and watch the game. I even had to make my own lunch. The Duke of Devonshire, president of Chesterfield, on the FA Cup semifarat against Middlesbrough. Are you watching, Mansfield? Chesterfield's 23,000 fans during the FA Cup semi-final.

TODAY

3.0 unless stated

FA Carfing Premiership Aston Villa v Tottenhem ... Che-sea v Leicester . Liverpool v Manchester (ttd (11.15)

Neddlestrough + Sunderland 3 Newcastle v Derby 4 Notingtiam Forest v Leeds 5 Shefreid Wed v Wimbledon Southampton v Covertry ... 6 West Ham v Everton

First Division 7 Eractord City v Berningham

9 Crystal Palace v Bornsley

MAJOR FIXTURES AND POOLS CHECK 12 Manchester City v QPR... 13 Oldnam v Botton . 14 Oxford v Swindow 15 Tranmere v Sheffield Utd ...

> - Brentford v Crewe 17 Burnley v Rotherham 18 Chesterfield v Millard

19 Gillingham v Biackpool 20 Luton v Shrewsbury - Preston v Stocknort 22 Wresham v Watford 24 York v Bristol City.

Third Division 25 Barnet v Cardiff 27 Chester v Scarborough 29 Doncaster v Fulham 30 Hereford v Torquay 31 Hull City v Leyton Orient 32 Lincoln City v Scunthorpe .

Bell's Scottish League ior Division 35 Hearts & Dunfermine 36 Klimamock v Hibernian 37 Motherwell v Dundee Utd.

38 Clydebank v Faller 39 Dundee v St Mirren ... 40 Morton v Ainthe .. 41 St Johnstone v East File 42 Stirling Albion v Partick Thistle .

Second Division

48 Cowdenbeath v Alica ...

43 Berwick v Hamitton 44 Clyde v Ayr 45 Livingston v Dumbarton 46 Stenhousemum v Queen of South Third Division Albion Royers v Arbitoath:

TOMORROW Float Cartisle Utd v Colchester Utd (1.30)

49 East Suring v Inverness CT - Montrose v Queen's Park

Nationwide Football League First Division Stoke v Part Vale (2.10) ... ond Division Bristol Rovers v Notes County (3.0)

Bell's Scottish League Premier Division

Celtic v Aberdaen (3.0) .

from the fact that Liverpool do

TEAM SHEET Last season: 0-0: Last five League matches: Arsenal WWLWW; Blackborn WLDL Arsenal captain Adams is again doubtful with an ankle injury, but midfielder Merson could start after a midweek reserve game. For Blackburn, Sutton (groin) has recovered, but full-back Le Saux, who no longer seems to feeture in Rovers' plans, did not travel with the team to London yesterday. Aston VIIIa v Tottenham Last season: 2-1. Last five League matches: Aston Ville LDWAL: Tottenham DLWIL

Will goalkeeper Boarisch is still in the cold, after being fined for walking out of the Baseball Ground last week. Staunton (celf) is posed for a recall in place of Hughes. Spurs, who have been beset with injuries all season, could have been cartilage) and winger fox thamsting missing. Cheisea v Leicester
Lest season: No corresponding froute. Lest five League
FC matches: Cheisea: WLILL; Leicester: IDDDL

Chelses player-coach Gullit is without the suspended Leboeuf and ne may opt to rest Zola and play Mark Hughes and Vialli up front, Leicester goal-keeper Keller is absent on international duty and cantre-back Blant, cupted for the Coca-Cola Cup final replay, is in line for a recall. tied for the Coca-Cola Cup final replay, is in line for a recall." Liverpool v Man Utd Last season: 2-0: Last five League matches pool: DWLWD: Manchester Utd: LWWLW

Collymore is poised to start up front with Fowler, who plays his last issaue

game of the season for Liverpool before suspension. Cole and Solskies are available but United manager Ferguson hopes at least two of his injured quartet, Giggs, May, Schmelchel and Irwin; will make the line-up. Middlesbrough v Sunderland Last season No corresponding fixture. Last five League matches: Middlesturough: WWWDD; Sunderfand: LIDDL. Coalkseper Schwarzer and full-back Fleming are ruled out for Middlesbrough; while Jungho (greek), Hignert (antice) and Festa (reck) fage, late fittresstess. Sunderland manager Reid has strikers Rae and Quinn back after

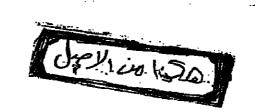
ension and injury respectively in this potential relegation decider.

matches: Newcastle: WODDW: Derby: LYWOW.
Newcastle manager Deligish will give striker Ferdinand (Imae) a late fitness
test. Winger Gillespie, who suffered minor concussion against Chelsea, should
also return. Derby will still be without Croatlan defender Striac but Estoollan goalkeeper Poom is evellable after a shoulder injury. Notin Forest v Leeds Last season: 2-1 Last five League ma sac: tingham Forest: DDDL; Leeds: DLDDL Forest's midfielder Haland is suspended but Pearce. Forest's midfielder Haiand is suspenium out in striker Lilley are poised to er are fit. French winger Laurent and Scottish striker Lilley are poised to make full debuts for Leeds. Defenders Wetheralt and Balle have recovered make full debuts for Leeds. Defenders Wetheralt and Balle have recovered make full debuts for Leeds. Defenders Wetheralt and Balle have recovered to the striker Deane (ankle) is doubtful. Sheff Wed v Wimbled

East season: 2-1. Last five League matrices. Sheff
field Wednesday: WLDWD: Wintbledom: LDUW
Strikers Booth (anide) and Hirst (Achilles) are Injury formes for Wednesday and centre-back Walker may also struggle to muse the starting lineup. Striker Booku suffered a wist Injury in Wimbledom 2-0 win over Leeds
In midweek and is a doubtful starter for the Dons. Southampton v Covent

Last season: 1-0. Last five League
Southampton: LDWDW; Coventry: DIDWM
Southampton styler Le Tissier (namenne) is working to
continue in attack if the England player fails to recove
Suachan must deside whether to play himself or recal
tack alongside Dublin. Goalkeeper Ogizovic (thumb) is fit but Evans will port is out with

West Ham v Everton:
Last season: 2.1. Last five Lasgue mate
Ham: DOWDI: Everton: LIDWD
Ferdinand, Lomes and midfielder Monour (suspension)
Breacker and quarian Dicks are still missing. For Every
a neck injuryation for fell and wardly during the midweek of
Phetan (transiting) and Thomsen (anide) face late fit



sport

If something deep inside you slackens so that to run your heart out no longer seems worth the effort, well, that's it...

Strachan, Waddle, McGrath, Beardsley - these days, it seems players can on on for ever" is currently making a bid to be the most overused of football writers' stopgaps. Overused and, very arguably, inaccurate. Although I might be minor league evidence for the endless Indian summer theory - 36 and still playing - I have strong doubts as to whether there are more old men out on the park these days than, say, when England won the World Cup.

THE INDEPEND

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Thirty years ago there were ap-proximately 5,000 registered professional footballers in the English game, twice as many as there are now. Sheer volume, therefore, was always enough to ensure that a lucky handful survived the physical perils of the park to reach a ripe old

Luck, good or bad, is always going to be the biggest factor determining a player's final games tally.

As Dave Busst's career-ending interest of the biggest factor determining a player's final games tally. minded us, a split, leg-splitting, second, can end everything on the spot. But over the decades how many others have had to limp permanently off the field in early career, victims of Sod's Law? Tony Green, Brian Little, Gary Shaw, Jim Beglin, Danny Thomas, a few star names in a

depressingly long list... More weightily, though if less dramatically, for all such essentially crip-pled out of the game at one fell stroke, there have been countless talented pros who, sustaining a severe knock early on in their careers, routinely - "run it off, it'll be all right, son" - soldiered on never to regain

jury last season most sickeningly rethe inevitable. It's as true now, I'm sure, as it has ever been.

All the same, from those past eras (and setting aside the one-off case of goalkeepers - Jennings, Stepney, Ronnie Simpson, Shilton) a bal-ancing list of "play til they got their pensions" names comes over even more readily to mind: Terry Paine, Jimmy Dickinson, Tommy Hutchison, Billy Bonds, Jim Langley, Tom Finney. Over-topping all, of course, in longevity, the incredible Stanley

Position naturally impacts strong-ly on how long you last. Your aver-age defender will stay longer than your average forward. (Matthews



Garry Nelson

and Paine were wingers who didn't chase back. Work-rate in '66 was less nunishing than a generation on). The point is made by the career of perhaps the finest post-war leader of England's forward line. After a long decade of service to Chelsea. Roy Bentley dropped back to

centre-half and enjoyed the bonus of a few extended years with Fulham

Today, of course, there are lots of artificial aids to playing longevity. Footwear is lighter, as is the lace-less ball; qualified physics are around a lot more: travel to away games is less wear and tearing; permitted body contact (charging the keeper; tack-ling from behind) is far more re-stricted. Above all, the introduction of the substitute has afforded many a grizzled veteran a sizeable helping of extra time: Andy Ritchie, Mark

Hateley, Mick Harford, even, it has to be whispered, Garry Nelson. At thirty-something, be it noted, the individual player's motivation is the starter for everything else. If you turn up for pre-season training and something deep inside you slackens so that the game of running your heart out in front of four thousand deciding fans no longer seems worth the effort, well, that's it. Good night, Rapid Vienna. It's worth stating - it's so obvious it gets overlooked - that players who keep on keeping on take enormous pride in what they're do-

ing. They still enjoy it.
Not at all obvious is a political aspect of getting on in the game. Not a few 32-or-so year-olds, still with good performances to give, have found potential career-extending moves mysteriously coming to naught. The reason? They've been perceived as threats. Incumbent managers - the alleged officers of the game - have been known to balk at the prospect of senior NCOs, armed with a full FA coaching licence and

15 years shin-scarred experience on

gling City or United. Being 100 canny a football pro can positively reduce the life expectancy of a player, which the records of the Professional Footballers' Association show lasts, on av-

erage, an alarming eight seasons.

My wet finger in the air guess is that with television giving '0t's football not only wall-to-wall but magnified exposure, the current crop of close to their sell-by date old boys are simply projected more into admass awareness than their predecessors. I don't think there are more of them. It just feels that way. Tell you what, let Peter Schmeichel pick a pack of over-35-years-olds from the current game and I'll pick one from the past to take it on. You know, his Brian McClair, my Frank Wor-

Deflated Boro focus on survival

GUY HODGSON

After Middlesbrough dragged themselves off the field on Wednesday night, the Coca-Cola Cup another dream de-3 999 Service stroyed, the first thing said as they reached the sad solitude of Hillsborough's dressing-room was "Forget it". One disappointment could not become oo important.

Relegation to struggle against, an FA Cup semi-final replay, the season did not cease when Boro lost to Leicester in extra-time, it just made it more difficult. So much to play for, and such a vision of failure grasped on the threshold of acuievement. It makes today's match against Sunderland, cup. matches notwithstanding, pos-sibly the most important they

have played in recent times Lose at The Riverside and relegation will become more than with opposed a possibility for either side. Add the ingredient of Wear-Tees rivalry and the tension today will a thorned a large majore; be so strong as to be touchable. "It's a massive game for us," affects Work to I then have Bryan Robson, the Middlesare of selfon of the last brough manager, said. We

one patient part in The Sunderland manager, use h a fine contents in Peter Reid, also tapped the mood. "Bryan is a great mate of mine," he said, "and I was hopthat the future of the Posting they would win the final. Un-Heat arena the least fortunately it didn't happen as of persons are the had and they will be up for this game. The players and they

"We're not playing too badly, we've just forgotten how to Welsh speaker win. We've been ahead of Not-tingham Forest and Newcastle and had to settle for draws. The

spirit is good, we just have to start winning." It is a sentiment that will be repeated throughout the Prem-

about Bill Archer or ground-

compassion fatigue has set in.

iership on a day when the relegation picture should become less muddied. Not only do Middlesbrough and Sunderland meet but the teams not far above them. Coventry and Southampton, clash at The Dell.

Arguably both have hit their best form of the season, as Southampton have taken eight points from their last four matches while Coventry have won their last two. Both could yet win their annual battle against rele-gation although defeat today for either, coupled with a deci-sive result at The Riverside and a win for West Ham against Everton, will plunge the losers into the bottom three.

"The players have done well recently," Graeme Souness, the Southampton manager, said, "but that's all gone and forgotten. We can't afford to relax and think we've done the hard part. last match behind them and immediately focus on the task ahead."

West Ham will again be without their inspirational leader, Julian Dicks, when they meet Everton, who appear to have made themselves safe with a draw against Liverpool in midweek. Dicks has a knee injury that will ensures he misses the next two matches and the manager, Harry Redknapp, must choose between Stan Lazaridis and Keith Rowland, both of whom have filled the gap in the

last two games.

Nottingham Forest take on Leeds at the City Ground knowing that defeat will put them on the verge of a second relegation in four seasons. They are two points behind Boro having played two games more and three behind Sunderland, West Ham and Southampton. They would love to say "forget it" but that luxury has long since gone.

rainy Saturday we put five past Charlton in the first half alone?

SCOTTISH FOOTBALL

Celtic must beat Aberdeen at Parkhead tomorrow to ensure Rangers will not end the afternoon celebrating a ninth successive championship. · All Celtic can probably hope

to do is make their Old Firm rivals, who do not play this weekend, wait to equal the record set by the Parkhead club under the late Jock Stein.

Celtic may without Tommy Johnson, their £2.4m acquisition from Aston Villa, who is one of four players doubtful for the match. That is grim news for the Celts who, disregarding Tues-day's testimonial victory over Manchester United, have not won in five games.

If the Premier Division title is a waning ambition - for only

the collection of three points will may also rule out Eurico Annoni, Hughes could return line-up afkeep Celtic's slight hopes of Jorge Cadete and Chris Hay. Peoverhauling Rangers alive ter Grant is suspended but Alan Stubbs is fit after the head injury sustained last week. Paul McStay then Wednesday's Tennents Scottish Cup semi-final replay has trained after his groin injury with First Division Falkirk offers a diversion. It is a temptabut will be a late decision.

onnson doubt unsetties ceitic

tion, however, they will have to resist, insists Celtic's assistant With the title still to be decided - just - the relegation manager, Billy Stark.
"We've four league games
left and a Cup semi-final replay issue looms largest today. Kil-marnock and Hibernian meet at Rugby Park in a match vital to both clubs, with each being and we want to end on a winning three points ahead of secondrun," Stark said. "Players can't pick and choose games to play. bottom Motherwell. well and nor can you do that over

Kilmarnock, Scottish Cup 90 minutes in a game. It's not like semi-finalists and unbeaten in a tap you can turn on and off. It six games, will again be without their Scotland Under-21 inmight be human nature to be ternational winger, Alex Burke. thinking about the Cup replay but while their opponents have Chic Charnley suspended. Felwith a goal against Falkirk last low midfielder Pat McGinlay is doubtful with an ankle injury, Saturday but is suffering from a but central defender John

ter a long-term back problem. Motherwell play Dundee United at Fir Park knowing that nothing other than victory will do if Airdrie, who look certain to be First Division runners-up, are to be avoided in the play-off. United will secure a Uefa

Cup place if they win. In the First Division, St Johnstone can confirm both the champiouship and automatic promotion by beating relegat-ed East Fife at McDiarmid Park, while Ayr United will step up from the Second if they take at least a point against

Clyde at Broadwood. At Dingwall in the Third, Ross County meet Forfar as they attempt to join Inverness Caledonian Thistle in climbing a division.

Hearts float, p. ge 25

FANOS EVE VIEW

that won't be tolerated here."

slight hamstring strain. Injuries

Johnson marked his debut

Next weekend Brighton and Hove Albion bid farewell to the Goldstone Ground after nearly in the part. The to put aside the mess of the present and get nost talgic about the part.

Leaving a ground is a stronge time. Ty explaining the emotion you feel to a non-football person and you come across as, well, pretty stupid. The Goldstone is the pretty stupid. The Goldstone is the pretty stupid. The Goldstone is come across as well, pretty stupid. The Goldstone is come across as well and the pretty stupid. The Goldstone is come across as well and the pretty stupid. The Goldstone is come a

Like many others. I've grown to care about Brighton more than April, which, at the time, we ever these past two years. The way the supporters have pulled game, fans prised pieces of turf together has been staggering and carried them home. I put and, when I stand in my usual tear mine in my parents' front garden, race spot for the final time, it will but it withered and died.

feared was our last Goldstone

After the pitch invasion last

Briers signs for Warrington

Rugby League

DAVE HADFIELD

Warrington yesterday rushed through the signing of the teenage scrum-half, Lee Briers, in time for him to play against his old club, St Helens, tomor-

row. Club officials had to negotiate the traffic chaos in Leeds in order to register Briers at the Rugby League. He is seen as the answer to Warrington's problems in the position that began with the sacking of Willie Swann early this season and continued when the 16-year-old John Duffy broke his leg. "I was a bit surprised when

Saints agreed to let him go," said the Warrington chief executive. John Smith, of the 18vear-old Briers. "He showed a lot of potential in the games he played for them. Now we hope he will realise that potential with us. We have had a lot of injuries and off-loaded quite a few players, so we had one or two gaps and he will fill one of

Warrington have agreed to pay £65,000 for Briers, who performed admirably as a kicker for Saints during Bobbie Goulding's six-match suspension at the start of the season. "The decision to part with reluctance, but we couldn't guarantee him first-team football," the Saints chief executive, David Howes, said.

First-team football is clearly what Briers wants, "I've had a taste of Super League rughy and I like it," he said, "Warrington are a progressive club and I have been impressed by them.

His new coach, Darryl Van de Velde, must decide whether to start with him after only a couple of hours' training with his new team-mates, or to leave Kelly Shelford in the starting line-up and introduce Briers from the bench. Saints are waiting for a fitness check on Paul Newlove before finalising their

The London Broncos' forward, Russell Bawden, has won his appeal against a threematch ban for a spear tackle. Bawden was placed on report for a tackle on Halifax's Michael Jackson last Sunday, but an appeal panel overturned the original suspension, saying that he was being given "the benefit of the doubt"

The Leeds prop, Barric McDermott, is in line for a recall to their side to face Sheffield Eagles tomorrow night. game ban for a high tackle in the semi-final defeat by Bradford and came safely through an Alliance match against him was made with extreme Featherstone this week.

Krajicek's serve proves a winner

Tennis

Richard Krajicek conceded only nine points on his own serve in his 6-4, 6-3 win against David Prinosil in the quarter-finals of the Japan Open on Thursday. The top seed, who served nine aces, said: "Any time I needed a big serve, I got it."
In the semi-final, Krajicek faces Patrick Rafter, the No 6

seed, who beat his fellow Australian, Todd Woodbridge, 6-4, Krajicek broke Prinosil in the first game of each set. On his own serve, he lost the first point and did not lose another

until the first set's last game.
"If I keep playing like this, I think I have a very good chance of winning here," said Krajicek, the 1996 Wimbledon champion who is now ranked sixth in the world. Prinosil said: "Today was

very difficult, very windy. It's hard to play Richard if he breaks you in the first game." Sweden's Thomas Johansson, who now has a 16-1 match record and two tournament titles since 10 March, beat Mark Woodforde, also of Australia, 6-3, 6-4. His semi-final opponent will be Lionel Roux, of France, who beat Boris Becker in the

third round and then Martin Damm, of the Czech Republic, 6-3, 6-1 in the quarter-final. The wind worsened for the

Rafter-Woodbridge match when Rafter came back from 40-0 to break in the second set's first game and took a 2-0 lead. After a time out to fix one of the singles poles and chase down the ballboys' kneeling mats, blown away by the wind, he lost nine straight points and was even at 2-2. He broke again in the fifth game but was broken back in the 10th, In the tiebreak, he won four straight points from 3-3 on errors by Wood-

bridge.
The frustrations continued for Woodbridge and Woodforde, the world's top-ranked doubles pair when they lost their quarter-final 6-3, 6-7, 7-6 to Rafter and Justin Gimelstob. America's Amy Frazier advanced to her fourth straight Japan Open women's final by overpowering Australia's Annabel Eliwood 6-2, 6-3. On Sunday Frazier will meet the winner

of today's semi-final between Kimberly Po. of the United States, and Japan's Ai Sugiyama. Frazier, the winner of the tournament in 1995, is a close friend of Po, her doubles partner and frequent practice part-

Parnevik Ryder Cup warning

I know you're tempted not to just one as it runs the length of

read this in case it's another the pitch. The west stand that

whining Brighton fan, but I stops three-quarters of the way

whining Brighton ran, but I says interpreted by the other side.

promise not to rant on and on about Bill Archer or ground-shares at Gillingham. I know favourite stories. Remember the past

Next weekend Brighton and Hove Albion bid farewell to the Goldstone Ground after nearly 100 years. Time to put aside the mess of the present and get nostalgic about the past.

Leaving a ground is a strange time. Thy explaining the emotion you feel to a non-football person and you come across as, well, pretty stunid. The Goldstone is

The Swede Jesper Parnevik will not be eligible for an autonatic place in Europe's Ryder Cup team in September after leclining to rejoin the European

Ken Schofield, the European RECVI lour's executive director, said resterday that Paragraphy, said PORT RELIGIONAL S executive director, said sestenday that Parnevil's deci-S Tour restricted his chances

M making the Free Compete solely on the Schofield added that the

took fault od copie wedish player's only chance ested with the Ryder Cup capair, Seve Ballesteros, who build issue two wild-card places

the team. Speaking at the Cannes Open Schofield said: "The relity now is that the only way lesper will get into the Ryder event.

Cup team is by way of one of the two wild cards. And, of course, they are at Seve's behest." Parnevik, 32, was runnerup at the Open in 1994 and is presently fourth on the US money-winners' list. Meanwhile in the second

round at Cannes, Paul Eales shot a six-under-par 65, the best of the week, to move to within one shot of the early lead during a sunny but windy second round. The 33-year-old Preston player's round included four birdie twos, while the leader, Santiago Luna, of Spein, produced a fine 66 for a total

of 136. Eales was delighted, for it was not only his best round on the European Tour this year but the first time he had had four twos on his card in such an important

Australian rules AFL: Western Buildags 13.11 (89) bi Melbourne 13.9 (87).

AMERICAN LEASUR: Toronto 5 Castend 4; Sest-te 8 Decent & Mignesots 4 Australin 3 (10 io-ragus; Minkace 5 New York Yarless 4; Circland 4 Beston 3; Texas 5 Kenses City 1; Balamore 1 Chicago White Sox 0.

Reskethall MBA: Seettie 108 Denver 104; Utah 106 Gold-en State 98; Portland 105 Venezuwer 73; LA Lak-

WOMEN'S WORLD REDOOR STRUISS CHARP-INCHEST (Limast) Section A: S Faust (English of K Homman Ont) 7-5.7-5.4 Sustendard (Medick Picker (Rap of th) 7-6.7-5.4 Sustendard (Medick Picker (Rap of th) 7-7-7-4.7-7-0.2 McGener (Scott Iv M Willemson (Rep of th) 7-4-6.7-7-8. Section 0: C IN Strue (English R. Former) (Carl) 7-1-4-7-7-0.2 E McGarde Scott & A. Simon (Sun) 7-4-6-7-7-2. Section 0: C Homes (Sock) & A. Simon (Sun) 7-4-6-7-7-2. Section 0: C 7-0: Lei Suk Man (HTG) bt L. Burnt (Ma) 7-4-5-7-4.

Chris Eubank, the former world super-middleweight champion, escaped a jail sentence yesterday after a fireworks dis-play he had organised exploded and caused senous factel injuries to two women. Eubank was ordered to do 200-

Football HORTHERN IRELAND SQUAD (World Cap-qualifler v Assensie, Yarawas, 30 Aprille Weight (Manchastar City), Fettle (Motingham Forest); Petterson (Latro), Hill Galestari, Louser (West Harry), Louseo, (Leicestari, Qualen (Stacipoo), Horfock (Manchestari Caly), Nobel (Shaffield Weithesclay), McCarthy (Port Vaiel), Jeoldans (Crester), Worthington (Stole), Malkanon (Stole), Hengilton (Stole), Malkanon (Stole), Hengilton (Stole), Malkanon (Carot's Peik Fangara), Taggart (Solor), Dowie (West Harri), Hughes (West Harri), Graffin (St Johnstone), Malkyno (Marchastar Uts), THURSDAY'S LATE RESULTS icks Longue Pro-

Alfest Harm), Hugbest West reput, serson ex ichnisteren, Hudbrest Menchenter Utch.

HILLESDAY'S LUCE REBULTS: Icis Longue Premier Division: Degenham & Rechniste 1 Hitchin 1, Second Divisions Coller Row & Romina 3 Circinot St Peter C; Whenhoo 2 Berstand 5, Winstonlead Kort Langue Flow & Horriot 3, Winstonlead Kort Langue Flow Divisions Astron 124 4 Grains 2 Linget Sussex County Rept Divisions Colleman 1 Satution 0; Shorsham 0 Wick 0, Pontine Langue Premier Divisions Botton 0 Linepol 3, First Zifvision Colonium 3 Auton Vills 2, Soomel Divisions Tilvision Colleman 6, Somethy 2 Mendester City 2, Langue Cap seed-Amer Stoin 3 Websil 2, FA Youth Cap Seed-Amer Stoin 3 Websil 2, FA Youth Cap Seed-Amer Stoin 3 Websil 2, Fa Langues Cap seed-Amer Stoin 3 Websil 2, Faching Sammer's Description 17, Zobran 38, Merino 48, Corne 88, 80; Espenyol 0 Atlatico Medici 0, Franch Languest Eile 1, (Secanols 59) Cannet 2 (Daury 41; Charyet 67), Datch Cap Sami-Seat Languest 18 1 (1 Secanols 59) Cannet 2 (Daury 41; Charyet 67), Datch Cap Sami-Seat Languest 18 1 (1 Secanols 59) CAMPES OPEN (Royal Mongles Golf Clab. Fr) Ently leading second-round scores (CB or let tenimes stated): 136 S Luna (Sp) 70 65. 137 P Eales 72 65, 138 P Brzadzust 68 70.

SPORTING DIGEST

(Aug., I Sandeler, B Feder, S Froch, J Foods, D A Welding, D Love, N Hersie, W Led. Selected 7:1 C Montgoneric (GB), F Allem (SA), V Singli, (Fig.), 7:2 J Pameter, (Swe); 7:3 F No-ble (NZ), R Allenty (Aug.); 7:4 W Grody (Aug., N Feder (SR), 6: Es (SA), D - Flost (SA); 7:6 G Watts (NZ), 79 S Lyle (GB). SUPAN & KOMEN LPGA INTERNATIONAL (New-rolls inice, South Caroline; per 38-38-72) Long-ing first-round scores (US imiges stated): 85

N Bonero 32 33. 66 N Harrey 34 32 L Regents 94 32. 69 S Steinheuer 33 35; L Device 33 35; T Bereit 33 35; A Soverscan 33 34; M Hazari 55 33; L Hadaniy 32 36; 69 M Will Halpen 34 35; P Streetina 33 36; M McGenn 34 35; G Johnston Forbes 54 35; C Figs Currer 34 35; H Devi 34 35; B Button 34 35; C Fig Rumer 34 35; H Devi 34 35; B Button 34 35; C Fig Rumer 34 35; H Altredson 34 35; "T Foucatio 34 35.

Hockey WOMEN'S FOUR NATIONS (Cardit): Wates 11 Storakie 0; Ireland 11 Poland 0. WOMEN'S INTER LEACUE PLAY-OFPS (Mil-ton Keynes) First Day: Colwell 3 Tuise Hill 2; Poymon O Akirldge O.

ice hockey NR. Stanley Cup Play-offs: New Jarsey 5 Mon-treel 2 (New Jersey lead best-of-streen series 1-0); Buffele 3 Ottoma 1 (Buffele lead 1-0); Philodelphia lead 1-0); Rorde 3 New York 0 (Florida lead 1-0);

Motorcycling JAPANESE SOCC GRAND PROX (Sizzale) Practice times: 1 M Dothen (Just Honds 2min 12.908sec; 2 N Folivers (Japan) Yaroshs 2:14.746; 3 7 Abit (Jepan) Honds 2:14.768; 4 A Barros (Br) Honds 2:15.109; 5 R Laconi (Fr) Honds 2:15.652.

Lole, the Formula One team who had to withdraw from lest month's Brazilian Grand Prix because of their financial position, have until 28 April to find a buyer and avoid liquidation. Rugby Union François Pienaar, South Africa's World

Cup-winning captain, yesterday took on extra authority at Saracens, who con-firmed him as their player-coach in charge of the first team. ACT Srumbles returned to the top of the Super 12 standings yesterday with a hard fought 15-9 win over the Otago Highlanders in Invercargill.

1 M Durm (Aug. 4006.89 (championeth) record; 2 Ne Aufeng (Chy 4:12.52; Sur C Heiter (Gen. R Karmagh (US. 4:12.53; Actions meeting relay; 1 Australe 3:30.66 (north record); 2 Ruises 3:32.56; 3 GB 3:32.61, Western EDm Freestyler 1 Sydler (Edn 24 Press) 3:52.56; 2 GB 3:32.61, Women: Som Frantshire: 1.5 Vehier (Sair 24, Topse: 2.1 From-son (US) 24.78: 3 la Roya (Christ) 24.63; 6 S Rotch (GB) 25.41, 100m transple: 1.1 Thomp-son (US) 63.42; 6 Volter (Ref) 53.50; 3 la Inger (Christ) 63.72; 6 S Roja (GB) 54.31. B first: 7 C Fusician (GB) 56.18, 400m Individ-ant medica; 1 Extraon (Hus) 4:36.18; 2 S Hact-st (GB) 4:36.02; 3 J Maior (Chr) 4:37.46. 4:200m transple rating: 1. Christ 7:55.92 Funds record; 2 Sanden 7:56.04; 3 Australia 7:56.12; 5 GB 7:56.18. Table tennis

Table termis

COMMONWEATH CHAMPIONSNIPS (GIRSCOMMONWEATH CHAMPIONSNIPS) (GIRSgov) Nerve team final: England bit tedia 4-1.

Englanmes Stat: A Cooke at A Dutta 21-19 21-8;

M Syed by C Baboor 21-18 21-18; A Perry at A
Basek 21-14 21-18; Cooke and Porty lost an
Baboor and Basek 21-23 15-21; Cooke at Baboor
21-13 21-15; Finel standings: 12 Ingland: 2hde; 3 Canada; 4 Australe; 5 New Zeeland; 6
Malaysiz 7 Northen height 8 Singland: 9 Webers
10 Sentland: 11 Bartrains: 12 Maurius: 13
Cypus; 14 South Ains. Women's team finelSinglapore at England 4-2 (Sing names test:
Pany Forn Tan by A Hoh 23-21 21-19; Ing JunHong of L Lomas 21-18 23-21; U Ping Koh toll
to N Deeton 18-21 12-21 and for the
Lomas and Hor 14-21 21-11 21-12; Tan lost to
Lomas 15-22 28-24 8-21; Ing by Deeton 2110 21-10; Pikal Standings: 1 Singland: 2 Figland; 3 Australe; 4 Malaysa: 5 Canada; 6 indo;
7 Waiser; 8 Northen lesbar; 9 Sezziand; 10 South
Atinc; 11 New Zeeland; 12 Barbados.

Spain's Albert Costa will move into the world top 10 rankings for the first time next week after yesterday reaching the semi-finals of the Barcelona Open with a comprehensive 6-4, 6-2, win over Cedno Proline, of France.

BARCELONA OPEN Mon's singles, quarter-6-nais: A Costs (Sp) bt C Proine IFr) 6-4 6-2; C Mays (Sp) bt A Medicaley (Lio) 6-4 6-2 Mage (Sp) th A Medirente (LRY) two exc.
JAPAN OPEN (Toleyo) Mean's eingle, fourth
roand: R Visices (Netty to D Prince) (Ger) 5-4
6-3: P Retirer (Aust) bit "Woodbodge (Aust) 6-7
6-7; Tichnissen (Siech in W Woodbodge (Aust) 6-3
6-4; L Roax (Pr) bit M Derren (Cc Rep) 6-3
6-4; L Roax (Pr) bit M Derren (Cc Rep) 6-3
6-4; Libertanie dentifier, acceptabilistic A Fagger (NS)



Early decider in Premiership race

Football

GUY HODGSON

The date has stuck out in the congested Premiership fixture list for months. Liverpool versus Manchester United. The requirements of satellite television have even intervened to ensure it will take place with high noon

at its fulcrum. Win and United will be confident of gaining their fourth championship in five seasons. Lose and they will still be best placed, although Liverpool and Arsenal will have renewed hope. The title is never taken or squandered in one match, it will just seem like it today.

in Monday's 20-page

sports

section

'Given the choice I'd much rether sign up Scottish players, but tell me where

they are. If I stick to just

home-grown talent, for the

good of Scottish football, we

probably wouldn't even win

domestic honours, let alone get anywhere

in Europe'

As Rangers stand on the

brink of a ninth consecutive

Scottish title, their manager

Walter Smith tells lan

Stafford why he will continue

to invest in foreign talent

Glenn Moore on today's

Premiership match of the

season at Anfield

That Was The Weekend

That Was, our alternative

guide to the weekend

football programme

Chris Hewett on rugby union

Derek Pringle on cricket

Sports Book of the Week

Sports betting

ager, said, while Roy Evans, his Liverpool counterpart, added: 'II we don't win it'll be a kick in the teeth." He went on to say his side could be defeated and still win the championship, al-

though few would concur.
Reliable Liverpool are not. Brilliant frequently, predictable hardly ever. They might have won the title the last two seasons and yet appear likely to finish empty handed. Even the Champions' League place for the runners-up position has been jeopardised by their failings and Arsenal's dogged persistence. was a perfect illustration. They should have

Ferguson left Goodison early with a broad smile that no doubt grew when his car radio revealed that Liverpool had lost. after today, their most important player for the rest of the season.

Dependability was the theme of the United manager's prematch thoughts yesterday, a quality, he said, had been forged by familiarity with these high-altitude affairs. Trips to Juventus and Porto come to mind this season, a failure and a success, although he would argue just the experience of ing in these places is a plus. Some clubs find themselves

in a situation like this," he said,

nothing fresh for Manchester United. The players have proved themselves many times in situ-ations like the one they'll face at Anfield. I trust my players, it's a case of letting them get on with it. They've got responsibilities and they'll carry them out.

"They've got ability and they can handle hostile atmospheres. Elland Road is just the same as Anfield in that respect and we did well there earlier this season, winning 4-0." Last time these two teams

met at Anfield, in December 1995, Liverpool won 2-0 and should have scored far more. That day United's central midfield consisted of Brian McClair

"It's a massive game for both beaten Everton but drew 1-1 and "and it's all new to them, but it's and Lee Sharpe, a soft centre place." As for Keane, he added: of us, "Ferguson, United's man-had Robbie Fowler sent off, nothing fresh for Manchester that had been replaced by Roy "He can handle 60 games a sea-Keane and Nicky Butt in the FA Cup final. United's 1-0 win at Wembley

was crowned by Eric Cantona's goal but carved out by the strength and running of Butt and Keane who overwhelmed John Barnes and Jamie Redknapp, forcing them to attempt their passes from too deep. If Andy Cole had a shred of confidence then the match would have been over as a contest in the first 20 minutes.

Butt has come back from injury and has been fantastic," guson said of the England midfielder. "When others are tiring he's flying all over the

son no bother. It's like signing a fresh player every year."

If Liverpool can confine Butt

and Keane without exhausting themselves, then they have ample ability to prevail today. Their problem is that they tend to tire in matches, their secondhalf performances rarely matching their first. It is why teams like Newcastle have come back at them and why Coventry stole three points in their last game

In Liverpool's favour they have a full squad to choose from which means Evans' dilemma - apart from David James' dreadful lack of confidence - will

be whether to play Rob Jones at right wing-back for his defensive assuredness or Jason McAteer for his runs and crosses. Given the need to win today, McAteer will probably be chosen.

As for United, they will se- ALAN NIXON lect their team once fitness tests have been undertaken on Peter Schmeichel, Denis Irwin, David May and Ryan Giggs. The team were superb against Blackburn," Ferguson said. "Anyone fit on top of that will be bonus.

So will any lead after today's match. A United win and the strain of four games in nine days at the season's climax, which the Football Association confirmed yesterday, will diminish.

PFA puts pressure on Jones over writ

Gordon Taylor, the chief executive of the Professional Footballers' Association, yesterday attempted to persuade Vinnie Jones to drop his legal battle with Wimbledon and the Premier League.

Taylor has written to the Wimbledon midfielder asking him to reconsider his attemp to win a free transfer through

the courts. Jones has issued a writ for restraint of trade over his demand to be able to move to another English club for nothing. He argues that the Bosman ruling. which means out of contract players can move on free trtransfers across European Union boundaries, should also

apply to domestic transfers. Taylor, however, pointed out to the 32-year-old Wimbledon captain that his action would ruin plans to bring in a new transfer system next year.

The PFA - along with the Football Association and the Premier League - are bringing in a rule that scraps fees for any player over 24 and out of contract as of the summer of 1998.

If Jones wins his legal action, then the whole transfer system

will change, which Taylor fears could force some clubs to close with the loss of players' jobs.

Blackburn Rovers left for Highbury yesterday without Graeme Le Saux. The leftback, who wants a transfer, has not been at his best in recent games and the decision to omit him from Rovers' vital game at Arsenal could have repercussions when Glenn Hoddle selects his England team for the World Cup match with Georgia

later this month. Neil Warnock should know by tomorrow whether he has a future as the manager of Oldham Athletic. A board meeting is being held over the weekend to discuss whether to ask him to carry on beyond the end of the season. Speculation is rife that Joe Royle could return to the club which he served so successfully until quitting to take over at Everton.

Brighton's long-term survival plans will be announced next Tuesday after a meeting at the FA yesterday worked out final details between the club's own-

tium led by Dick Knight. Germans angered by Uefa

The president of the German football federation snubbed an official dinner at Uefa's meeting in Geneva yesterday in protest at the failure of the European game's governing body to give its backing to a single bid from the continent to host the 2006 World Cup finals.

Egidius Braun said he had backed England's campaign for the 1996 European championships, in return for a "gentlemen's agreement" with England to give their support to Germany for the World Cup 10 years after. "I am more than disappointed in

the English," he said.
The Football Association claims to have no knowledge of such an agreement, news of which apparently was not passed on to them by their former president, Sir Bert Millichip.

Franz Beckenbauer, the former captain and later coach of Germany, who was in Geneva as a special ambassador backing the German bid, was also angry at Uefa's stance, saying that if he met with the president of either Uefa or Fifa, the world game's governing body, "there

would have been a decision." Europe's eight votes within Fifa, which has 24 members, could be split between England and Germany, weakening the Europeans' chances of beating

THE INDEPENDENT CROSSWORD No 3277. Saturday 19 April

Friday's solution

Good luck charm on old 1 Like many a youth girl has to GP has little hesitation approaching hospital department for record (8)

10 New family member given
CD – it helps with developThe finally a youning it is shut up? (8)

Old queen's place, no good for affair? (7)

Band, in gold, on coffer artist depicted (9)

Description of habit when reasonably well controlled?

DOWN

Typical of the reaction you

6 Anxious to have selected group of candidates putting 11 Pan is of recent manufacture (5)12 Bent cop able to identify fake

13 Went round gallery, taken in 7 by fisherman (7) get in spring? (7)

14 Almost time for retirement? 8 Smart attempt to pocket

(5) object (6)

(5)
15 Coming to Sydney next time, sport? (8)
18 Film location not open to the rublic (2.6)

object (0)
Short cut to recovery? (5.9)
16 Device for holding a dropper making little impact?
(9) public (2,6)
20 Religious leader in Rhode Island entertaining a couple of hishops (5)

(9)
17 Lieutenant cherishing unjustified belief in safety device (8)

23 Cosmetic Mum's used to cover a blemish (7)
25 Square measure incorrectly
26 Offensively obtrusive articles and the property of the property (7)

25 Square measure incorrectly given by teacher (7)
26 Clever commercial finished in record time (5)
27 One given clean-out after surgery to guard against disease (9)
28 To begin with, those insisting on coming in late must be queet (8)
29 Ensemble's former violunst at

29 Ensemble's former violinist at last recruited by group (6)

Central London to the centre

How many times have you arrived at the airport to find your journey isn't over?

When you travel by Eurostar, you arrive in the heart of Paris or Brussels which,

You're miles from the centre of town and you have to wait ages for a taxi.

The first five correct solutions to this week's puzzle opened next Thursday receive hardbacked copies of the new Oxford Dictionary of Quotations. Answers and winners' names will be published next Saturday. Send solutions to Saturday Crossword, P. O. Box 4918, The Independent, I. Canada Square, Canary Wharf, London E14 5BL. Please size the box number and postcode and give your own postcode. Last week's winners: R Gould, Winscombe, C Chelin, York; M Grusvenor, Shipley, G Jaruser, Formby, C Farmer, Tumbridge Wells.

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of Paris or Brussels.

after all, is exactly where you want to get to.

Jason Gallian (left) and Mark Butcher pile up the runs for England A yesterday as the Rest's Alex Tudor shows signs of suffering Photograph: David Ashdown **Butcher emerges from** unusual day with credit

DEREK PRINGLE reports from Edgbaston England A 272-2 v The Rest

This was more a two-blanket occasion than a curtain-raiser as April revealed its schizophrenic nature to all those who had left that extra sweater at home. The pitch was scarcely less twofaced either and Mark Ramprakash, having won the toss and inserted England A on what looked to be a greentop, watched aghast as his bowlers conceded 237 runs before tak-

ing their first wicket. In truth, it was not really bowling weather and this was not the terror track England crum-bled upon against the West Indies two years ago. But then the Rest's bowlers, for all their potential, are not Ambrose and co, a fact that Mark Butcher and Jason Gallian both appeared to no-tice as a brace of hundreds were rattled up by mid-afternoon.

Quite what the selectorial trio resent were meant to make of this is uncertain, as testing deliveries, nearly all of them bowled by the gangling Alex Tu-dor, could be counted on one mittened hand. When bad light eventually ended play an hour and a half early, it was the field-

spent on tour with England, the Rest's attack contained three bowlers - Tudor, Dean Cosker and Ben Hollioake - with 13 first-class appearances between them. Mind you, Simon Brown betraved his superior experience by bowling dross, the lack of swing upsetting his normally ag-

gressive line. Of the centurions, Butcher looked the more assured and probably has more to play for than Gallian, who has already had an unconvincing stint at the top, although a broken finger limited his appearances on this winter's England A tour of Australia. His opening partner, Butcher, ended that trip as leading scorer, scoring fifties in seven of his 11 innings.

Having begun life as a bowl-ing all-rounder, Butcher, now 24, began to move up the order after injuring his pelvis two seasons ago. These days he is happy to accumulate runs rather than maidens, and with Nick Knight returning from New Zealand with both a smashed finger and a question mark over his suitability as an opener, an early run glut from the Surrey man may well catch the selectorial eye.

Unlike Knight, whose sense of urgency exposes his frailty Sharp, David Shepherd and outside off-stump, Butcher Peter Willey, England's four

not manage to betray a winter few fresh air drives against his county colleague Tudor, his front foot shots were as crisp and crunchy as newly shredded

His back foot shots, too, were scarcely less than certain and he took the junior Hollioake, Ben, down a peg by hoisting him high over mid-wicket into the vast empty quarter of yellow seats. With only 200 spectators braving the Birmingham murk, it hardly felt like a match billed as the modern eqivalent to the old Test trials of the Sixties.

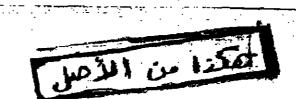
Silverwood fed Gallian's cut straight to Hollioake in the gully.
But if that success was scarce-

ly deserved, the wicket of Michael Vaughan, whose offstump was knocked back by Tudor, was just reward for a game effort. Tudor, another of the Surrey stable to have suffered recent injury, was one of the stars of the England Under-19s' tour of Pakistan. With Brendon Julian unavailable at the Oval this season, he will get his opportunities. And on days when the mercury climbs, his wickets too.

Mery Kitchen, George Sharp, David Shepherd and ing side who looked the more looks unhurried, preferring to get off-side of the ball and tuck it away to leg. Defensively he wood, whose line and length did looks sound, and apart from a summer's Ashes Test series.



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8/11/



VOTE CONSERVATIVE CAN YOU HELP?

The temptation to suggest that rather a lot of Conservative candidates need all the help they can get is irresisitible, though they probably didn't expect any helpful suggestions from the local constabulary, such as THE WEEK this one did in Stansted, Essex. Photograph by Brian Harris with 160 ASA colour negative film, 500th second at f5.6, 18mm lens. To order a copy of this picture – for £14 – phone 0171-293 2534

thelongweekend

kay, it is the 24th of January. This begins to feel a bit like a travel diary. I suppose it is. I've hit very bad weather. I retired after compline last night, with rising panic. I don't know why I agreed to come in here for so long - three days is ample - and I feel I need the sense that I'm going to get out soon, a feeling of the

arc of the thing, as an end in sight.

So I'm playing mind games with myself that
once the third day is over, that's nearly a quarter of it - of course it isn't. This is to do with belief. If I could feel that I was able to pray, really able to pray for something or to someone, I'd be fine.

I've just come back from recreation and vespers. Recreation - I sat next to a lovely nun called Mother Philip Howard who leads the signing. I asked her whether they have any news.

They have no television, but they are allowed a sort of weekly Guardian, and they also get the Catholic Herald, she says, which has a great lot of news in it. They don't have any other news, unless something enormous happens in the world. I said, like a bomb? She said, well no, but if the Pope died.

They were allowed to listen to the radio for the Royal Wedding and that was the last time they sat in the garden and listened to the radio communally, they were given a special dispen-sation. So I'm going down for another half hour kneeling and adoration – goodness me. I wish I knew how to do the adoration business. Signing off now.

It's Thursday night. Today in choir an odd thing happened. We were singing sext, I think, and one of the nuns had to begin the singing, start a line

on her own, and she burst into tears. So I decided she was having a very bad veil day.

Later on at supper, I was looking at the table as we most of us were, and the next thing she got up and knelt because there's been a positive epidemic of this kneeling in the middle of supper or in the middle of lunch. And it's this punishment exercise where, I think, if they feel they've had a bad thought, then they must rise,

WORDS OF THE WEEK

'One of the nuns burst into tears. So I decided she was having a bad veil day'

Actress Fiona Shaw (right) decided to join a nunnery in central London for two weeks. She recorded her experiences for Radio 4



come to the centre of the refectory, kneel in front of Mother General's table - a sort of high table underneath the crucifix - and they kneel in the middle of the floor and declare, as it were, that they had absolutely committed some frightful sin. Of course, all one does is spend one's

time surmising what the thought was. These nums wear a wedding ring on their wedding finger but on their right hand, because they are brides of Christ. This hijacking of the language of love and passion is all very well and good in relation to love and God, but the metaphor can't suddenly stop at the sort of happy families picture of the bride and bride-groom sitting in their thrones looking down at

a happy company.

To be in love with Christ is to be open to him, physically, is to be sexpally involved. It's one of the main experiences of falling in love is a height-ened sexual awareness of the other. And I sup-pose my experience here has been the totality of the absence of the word sex or sexuality. Why
is it the thing that most threatens? You don't see
any other flesh, ever. You just see these beauti-

ful, beautiful cowls moving along the ground. I get awkward talking about their sexual behav-iour because I don't want to presume on it.

For all I know, when I leave on Wednesday, there's a big orgy and they have all the priests round - I doubt that. I don't know what you'd do if you had a sexual problem here. I was going upstairs last night and I passed a workman leaving and I went out and I said, do you want to go out? And he said, yes. And I found myself saying, I would give anything to come with you. And he got the fright of his life. I suppose he thought I was a permanent postulant and he had suddenly potentially seduced me away.

Good morning, it's Friday. Am I admitting that this place is working its magic on me? What it is doing is the thing that I do most admire about the theatre or music—somewhere there's a point at which it just bypasses the intellect and becomes an emotional experience.

As soon as it's emotional, of course, one can find the energy behind it, because people don't function from the intellect, neither in nor out

of a convent, so I don't think it's logic that makes any of us live the crazed lives we lead or the overworked lives we lead. It's emotion. It's usually for the love of somebody or something. And this love of Christ is their gift, because they understand what it is to love something that you can't see, feel, touch or smell

I had a marvellous time kneeling down in front of the crucifix in my half an hour of adoration. I must say I did find that I was doing it in a dif-I must say I clid mid that I was doing it in a dif-ferent way. I was neither daydreaming nor react-ing. I was just asking questions and acknowl-edging that I was asking questions in relation to that crucifix, I'll give you that. I also found it not unpleasant for the first time. Maybe my knees had got used to it.

It's my last day. I know I'm coming to the end and there's so much I want to say now, because I am suddenly seeing it from the top of a mountain. I am absolutely stunned at how I have come, not full circle, it's not that I'm staying in here or anything, but I am incredibly taken with their way of life.

The miracle of being able to yield and have complete power over yourself at the same time is magical. I think that chastity is or can be a positive act. I have veered, really, from loathing it to admiring it beyond measure. Things that I found absolutely painfully cruel, this kneeling when they sin or when they feel they've sinned. I now see as a remarkable force.

Tonight somebody did it, they dropped a knife again and up they got, knelt down and picked it up. I saw somebody else smiling during vespers and she immediately knelt for a moment. If all of us knelt at the moment of our sin, how many of us would check a much bigger sin that's around the corner? It is a lesson in the kind of possibility that human dignity can have. So if any of my friends notice me having the odd kneel, randomly in the middle of a conversation, they can know from now on that I've had a bad thought.

INSIDE

Kim Novak, the star who gave John Lyttle Vertigo

Champagne all the way for Stella McCartney



Travel: Of mysteries, monks and mountains

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Playing in five dimensions

William Hartston devises the game to end all games - and to decide which ones suit you

ames are traditionally classified into categories such as board games, card games, dice games, race games, war games, role-playing games, murder-mystery games and a dozen or more other categories which provide no more than the most superficial description of what the game is all about. Today, we offer a complete taxonomy of competitive games - a classification system that goes beneath the surface of each game to provide a way to judge whether it meets your

An analysis of the important factors that really distinguish one game from another reveals five major dimensions that need to be taken into account when deciding whether a particular game suits you. The first concerns the number of participants and, in particular, the number on each side. The real question to ask yourself here is whether you want to shoulder absolute responsibility for the result of the game. Or, to put it another way, do you want someone else to blame when you lose? If you demand all the glory of victory, and are prepared to accept the full ignominy of defeat, you will choose chess or backgammon rather than a partnership game such as bridge, or a board game, such as Trivial Pursuit, that can be played in teams. In general, team games are for the gregarious, individual games for the asocial, and partnership games for the anti-social (with only one coteam member to blame when things go wrong, partnership games are perfectly provoke arguments). The situation is,

however, further confused by some of the most popular games, such as Monopoly or Cluedo or Scrabble, which allow several individuals to compete at the same time, rather like athletes running in separate lanes. For the most competitive, this offers the chance to beat a number of opponent all at once, while for the less ambitious it offers a sense of community with one's co-losers. (Hint: their own score, irrespective of whether it leave opportunities for the next player to make a killing on a triple word score.)

information (bridge or Cluedo) or starting with a shuffle and distribution of the elements of the game in an unequal bridge, the luck element is reduced by placing all players under conditions of

guesses than others.

of your choice - or just look at the shaded segments to appreciate its true qualities. ONO And don't forget the alcohol. YOUTEVING of course, has become the main problem National Lottery. If you feel congenitally complete rubber of Trivial Pursuit: trying to answer

when playing Scrabble, always try to sit on unlucky, you may turn to chess, though the immediate left of a non-competitive, even there luck plays its part. Indeed, it social type. They always try to maximise has been calculated that a complete beginner, playing legal moves at random, has about a one in 10¹²⁰ chance of defeating the world champion. The most The second major dimension is the role attractive balance is a game that enables luck plays in the game. Chance will play us to think how clever we are when we its part in any game played with dice win, but to blame our rotten luck when we (such as backgammon or Monopoly) or lose. There is, as far as I know, only one played under conditions of incomplete game of total skill, and that is the game of

fashion (almost any card game). In some be over by breakfast? Many of the most cases, such as Cluedo and duplicate popular games of recent years, such as Connect-4, or Articulate or Jenga, are over quite quickly, and everything reset in equal bemusement, but still some are seconds for another game. They are ideal likely to be favoured by making better for those of us with short attention spans who require repeated doses of a Depending on the degree to which you competitive thrill. Bridge offers a more and the easier it becomes for a diligent fancy your luck, you may play sophisticated version of that recipe, with a hard-worker to acquire all the abilities backgammon, card games, bingo or the single hand taking only a few minutes, but needed to compete at a high level. This,

having the potential to last considerably longer.

Then there is the important matter of study. If you want to become good at difficult it is to survive on talent alone,

puzzling questions on a variety of topics was fun until a breed of yuppie-nerds spoilt it all by learning all the answers.

Trivial Pursuit, however, provides us anything - and even if you are not with the key to the final dimension in our especially competitive, most games are taxonomy of games. We have covered more enjoyable if you play them well - competitiveness, commitment, time and there are two routes: natural talent or talent, but there is one other factor hard work. However talented you are, without which many games would be however, some games demand a certain incomplete: alcohol. The final question to amount of study if you want to get the . ask of any game is: "Will it be more fun if Snap!

Next, we come to the matter of time. If

we start playing at midnight, will the game

amount of study it you want to get the lask of any game is.

The most out of them. In backgammon or most of the players are at least mildly intoxicated? Bridge isn't; Poker may poker, you need to learn the odds and intoxicated? Bridge isn't; Poker may familiarise yourself with standard seem so at the time, but definitely isn't in techniques; in bridge, there are bidding the cold morning light of a loser's systems to master, and in chess there are hangover; chess and backgammon can be; libraries of theory on openings and and Monopoly, Cluedo and Trivial endgames. The older and more Pursuit definitely are improved by an established a game becomes, the more injection of alcohol. So is Snap, for that matter, which shows that even a game of pure talent may be improved if you can introduce a factor that diminishes the skill level.

Games people play Pandora Melly peers through Loyd Grossman's keyhole

Loyd Grossman, 46, television

My only game that I was any good at was tennis. I played a heck of a lot at school but I wasn't a prodigy and began petering out at around 20. I suppose my real game is scuba-diving. I learned when I was 10 in the lovely tropical waters of the Caribbean and was I pretty keen - until the frigid grey threatening waters of northern New England rather damped the attraction. Once I'd learned, I felt like Jacques Cousteau, and when I went home to do it, it was like being in one of those World War Il films about navy saboteurs -

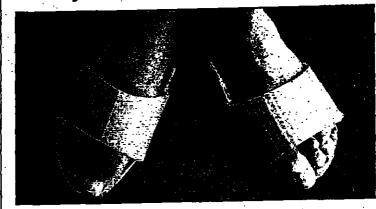
very cold; and very hard work. Every year, I am fortunate enough to spend a few weeks in Thailand, during which I go diving every single day. And when I'm back in Britain, I'm involved in a couple of scuba charities which teach disabled people to dive. It means that every now and then, I'll don my scuba gear and jump into a swimming pool. Although after my childhood experience, I only really like warm water.

I am unashamed to admit that I do like a sport that has a lot of kit, and there's plenty of kit with scuba-diving. It's technically demanding, so you can't be sloppy and think about the phone bill. Because you have to concentrate a lot, somehow it's incredibly relaxing. Also, you get to see some great stuff - sharks, rays and eels. You never know what's going to be down there until you get into the water. There's that thrilling moment when you start descending and you just think: "Gosh, this is going to be amazing, I hope."

I suppose I like fishing for the same reason; it's another think on which you have to concentrate in a marginally Zen-ish way.

The Surrey-based Scuba Trust (01306-740349) offers subsidised diver training and snorkelling to anyone with a physical disability. Includes regular trips to the Red Sea. Enquiries welcome from disabled divers, voluneer instructors and benefactors. The Latimer Sub-Aqua Club (0181-840-7772) offers a similar London-based service.

Don't junk it ... use it A sticky solution to your holiday packing



When packing for a stay away from home, one is frequently faced with the problem of whether to include bedroom slippers. One never does, of course, but always regrets it. I have found a remarkably simple solution to this dilemma: I pack a tube of glue instead. Then, on arrival at my destination, I can make my own pair of slippers, which are guaranteed to be fit to throw away when it is time to return. All you need is pencil, scissors, a piece of paper, a cardboard box (available at any good refuse bin) and, of course, the glue.

Start by standing on a piece of paper and drawing round your foot separately round each foot for the highest quality slippers) to make a template. Use the template to cut shapes (at least three per foot) out of the cardboard. Glue two together for the sole of the slipper.

In a similar fashion, make the strap of the slipper, starting by wrapping a piece of paper about three inches wide over and around the ball of your foot. Place your foot on the slipper sole to mark where the strap should be glued. then glue it. Cut and glue additional shapes to fill in the spaces made by the glued strap. Complete with a final sole-shaped piece glued to hold everything in place. It's surprisingly comfortable and will last a short holiday.



The games page is edited by William Hartston

Backgammon Chris Bray

Chess William Hartston



Being by inclination a player rather than a problemist. I generally find mate-in-three problems too difficult. I can solve a matein-two, if only by looking at every possibility, but threemovers are too much of a strain. Unless, of course, I cheat by looking up the answer and then appreciating the ingenuity of the composer – which is what I did with the mate-inthree above. Composed by A Lobusov, it won first prize in a composing tournament in the Soviet

Union in 1983, When you first look at the position, it seems quite clear that the key to the action will lie on the e-file. At some stage, the knight will move from e6 to deliver a fatal discovered check. The only trouble is that any move of the knight will leave the pawn on f4 unprotected and let the black king escape with Kxf4. We could defend the pawn with 1.g3, but that would let the king escape to B. No. it's clear that what we have to do is persuade Black to play Rxf4

blocking that square for his king. So all we need is a first move that contains a threat that can only be met by Rxf4. But why should Black possibly want to play

You will never solve the problem at all if you think in this apparently logical manner. The key is to stop vourself thinking about the e-file, which has no part in the solution. The answer begins with

the unlikely looking 1.Rd8! carrying the remarkable threat of 2.Bd5+! Kxd5 3.Nf6 mate. Black has three possible defences: a) 1...Ne3 covers the d5 square but takes away a

possible flight square from the black king. White mates with 2.Nfo+ Nxf6 3.Bxd3. b) 1...d2 creates room to answer 2.Bd5+ with Kd3. but White instead plays 2.Bd3+! Kxd3 3.Nxc5 mate

prevents the king from running away. c) 1...Rxf4 also prevents the main threat (2.Bd5+ Kxd5 3.Nf6 Ke5) but now, hecause f4 is occupied, White has 2.Nxc5+ Nxc5

when the pawn on d2

3.Bd5 mate. Quite apart from the beautifully hidden key, the subsequent white moves in the above variations also exhibit a cyclical effect: Bd5 and Nf6, then Nf6 and Bd3, then Bd3 and Nc5, and finally Nc5 and Bd5.

No, I would not have solved it had I not been able to read the answer.

concise crossword



DOWN

Incautious (6)

Party with music (5)

Mythical creature (6)

Shortfall (7)

Wages (8) Unwell (4)

Bid (5)

20 Chum (6)

24 Money (4)

22 Fruit (5)

13 Thick treade (8)

17 More rapidly (6)

19 Upper room (5)

16 Enter uninvited (7)

ACROSS

Lingerie (6) Allied oneself (5) Thin biscuit (5) Flowering plant (7) 10 Lie back (7)

11 Vagrant (4) 12 Alcholic drink (3) 14 Male deer (4) 15 Leave out (4) 18 Watering-place (3) 21 Competently (4) 23 Farm vehicle (7)

25 Kettledrums (7) 26 Fry quickly (5) 27 Cattle farm (5) 28 Go upwards (6)

Solution to yesterday's Concise Crossword: ACROSS: 1 Priam. 4 Hurry (Primary), 10 Soprano, 11 Disby, 12 Greed, 13 Abridge, 15 Ogre. 17 China. 19 Sieer, 2 Lute, 25 Bananas, 27 Ascot, 29 Sofas, 30 Rescand, 31 Plays, 32 Byros. DOWN: 2 Rupee, 3 Abandon, 5 Under, 6 Residue, 7 Usage, 8 Molar, 9 Types, 14 Best, 16 Gola, 18 Handful, 20 Hearsay, 21 Abuse, 23 Usury, 24 Study, 26 Nasty, 28 Cniro.

Bridge Alan Hiron

Game all; dealer East North **776542** ♦10976 East **♦**J542 **♦**Q 10 9 8 ♥K3 **♥AQJ108** ◊142 ♦ none **♦KQ103 49862** South **◆**K763 **OAKQ853 ₽**A 5 "I think that I muddled that,"

apologised South after going down in 5 ◊ on this deal. "You were unlucky. I am sure that I would have played it the same way," his partner replied, tactfully if not truthfully. Well, how would you have tackled matters after heart leads?

East opened 1 ♥ and South bid 30. In the old-fashioned style still usually played in the tubber game, this was strong and North found a raise to 40. South went

Perplexity

The above sentence conceals three connected answers each of two words. To find them, all you have to do is to group the six given words into three pairs, then rearrange the letters within

A prize of the new Chambers 21st Dictionary will be awarded

on to game in diamonds. West led the king and another heart.

A, expecting to make an early claim. There was a hitch, however, when East showed out. Next came the A, a club to the ace, the .K and a spade ruff. It was easy enough to come to hand with a top trump and ruff the last spade, but now the lead was on the table. Declarer led a club but, hardly surprisingly, East was able to win and push through a third round of hearts to promote his partner's OJ for the setting trick.

to draw any rounds of trumps before unblocking A. Try the ♠ A at trick two – surely safe enough. Now declarer comes to hand with a trump (discovering the now only mildly irritating 3-0 break in the suit), and ruffs a spade. Then he comes to hand with a second top trump, ruffs his last small spade, and still has A as a re-entry to hand to complete the drawing of trumps.

entries on 30 April. Answers to:

I Canada Square, Canary Wharf,

Perplexity, The Independent,

Fax machine (chief ax-man)

Winner: Roderick Main

Mobile phone (Holbein poem),

Word processor (sorrow corpsed)

London E14 5DL

5 April answers:

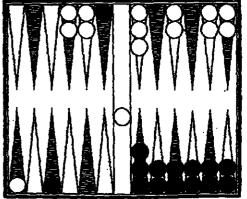
Mixed doubles:

Declarer ruffed and cashed

Well, what was South's error (which I am quite sure that North had spotted)? It was premature

to the sender of the first set of correct answers, when we open

Baby prig chose loon's ringlets



I have decided to give myself the hard luck story of the year award for the position above. Playing at the Double Fives against Barry "Bigplay" MacAdam, I was Black and looking forward to ending Barry's run in the box with a well-deserved gammon.

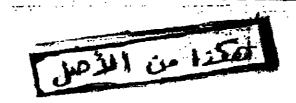
I rolled 2-1. No excitement there as I moved 10/7. I rolled again and out popped another 2-1. I carefully played 7/5, 6/5, laughingly pointing out to my partner that this was better than 7/4 as it protected against me breaking my board if I next rolled double 2.

My partner laughed at the joke and I rolled again. Guess what - 2-2! I calmly played 5/1(2) and decided that the fates were being mildly amusing but that one could have too much of a good thing. I shook the dice long and hard, threw them through the baffle box and out popped - you'll never guess - 2-2! With a forced grin, I played 6/2(2). Barry rolled 6-4 which he naturally played bar/19, 13/9. After one of the longest dice shakes ever recorded at the Double Fives, I rolled once more - you will never believe it but, yes, both of those little cubes came to rest with the number 'T uppermost. Now Barry sensed a chance of victory. There are no prizes for guessing his roll. It was 2-2! He played this 9/7(2)*, 7/5(2). I stayed on the bar, he redoubled and my partner and I had to drop.

The odds of not being able to get past a two-point block in five rolls are 59,049 to 1. In the original position, Black will win 97 per cent of the time, 60 per cent of which will be gammons. However, note that White wins 3 per cent (normally as he hits a blot in the bear-off), so remember, until you can definitely hear the fat lady singing, never give up!

For the weather, traffic reports, the sky at night, and Damion Hurts the cartoon sage of artistic angst ... TURN TO PAGE





A Sex Doll bred for the boudoir: Kim Novak (above) and with James Stewart in Hitchcock's "Vertigo" (below left); Novak as she is today (below right)

PHOTOGRAPHS: COURTESY KOBAL (above); TONY BUCKINGHAM (below)

im Novak is clad from head to toe in exquisitely cut black-and-pale skin: "You like the pant suit? I wore it to the premiere of Vertigo yesterday. Did you enjoy Vertigo? You did? The restoration is magnificent. I think Vertigo is one of Hitchcock's best..." The voice tunes in and out.

A LONG MEETE

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> I was made to feel I was continually saying the wrong thing. It was: little girls should down. I'd say, 'Harry, you didn't make me be seen and not heard. I wanted to be heard?

You're obliged to come close, break into what psychologists call Intimate Space to catch the soft breeze of drifting sentences.

Off-screen Kim Novak talks in the same whisper that drives the happily married Kirk Douglas to adultery in Strangers When We Meet, and talks as much with her hands as her wet, discreetly bink lips. Delicate, fluttering gestures punctuate points about, oh, why she abandoned Hollywood nearly 30 years ago and "went back to nature"; why she believes in embracing good and bad both, for that's destiny; why her "comfortable, lowermiddle-class Chicago upbringing" gave her a security Marilyn never had.

"Marilyn..." Novak says. In the Fifties, industry wisdom ran: Marilyn parodies sex, Mansfield parodies Marilyn, and Novak is sex. "Sex. Sex. symbols." Novak shrugs. She repeats the words, maintains your gaze: "Not all of us made it,

you know. Novak did, however, though her fragile, lost and infinitely suffering image may have made her appear an ideal candidate for her own chapter in Hollywood Babylon. She's alarmingly tiny: a smoky blonde pocket Venus, a last gasp Sex Doll bred for the boudoir. But then, most of the Golden Age's Love Goddesses were tellingly diminutive, with constricted waists, short necks and barrage-balloon breasts. Even so, they usually towered over the studio chiefs and suffocating pretend-fathers who thought they were charged with running the lives of their ungrateful chattel, no matter how powerful at the box-

office. Elizabeth Taylor, five feet and maybe one

inch, could look down on MGM's Louis B

I think that what some people view as misogyny was jealousy, that Hitchcock may have wanted to have been a beautiful blonde

Mayer, and Monroe, hardly an amazon but Queen of the Fox lot, was well used to greeting the top of Darryl Zanuck's swollen head. But Kim Novak's ogre was the biggest and the smallest - bastard of the bunch: Columbia's Harry "King" Cohn.

Cohn had made, and was later discarded by, Rita Hayworth, and wasn't about to have Hayworth's successor do the same. Every day, he'd gloat aloud how he had taken small-town beauty pageant winner Marilyn Pauline Novak and through sheer force of will created the cool,

creamy Kim, loudly boasting to the good old boys in the press corps that he could select any mug's sister, mother or aunt and perform the same miracle.

"Harry?" Novak sighs. "Harry thought he'd raised me up so he could pull me down, pull me down, pull me star. The audience noticed me in Picnic and The Man with the Golden Arm and they made me a star.' But he'd still call me into his office and read out my bad reviews. He'd repeat the really burtful lines. He knew I'd remember

them. Harry got a kick out of humiliating me." No wonder she says she's more comfortable with "the real animal world" out there on Big Sur, surrounded, and (one senses) protected, by her adored dogs, cats, deer, horses, trout... She

Kim Novak talks to John Lyttle

pendent will or braving the colour bar. For a while, her career stood on the brink. "It just didn't make sense to me. What, I shouldn't see Sammy because he's black and because they won't show my movies in the South? I said to Harry, OK, then they don't show my movies in the South.

"I was going to continue to see Sammy, come hell or high water. I knew lots of blacks and Jews. I identified with minorities. Those feelings shouldn't be lip service, but put into action.'

"Harry got his Mob friends involved. They threatened Sammy." Davis married a black dancer three weeks later. "Harry had a heart attack. When I was called to his office after that he would make a show of popping his nitrates.

But I feel bad. In his own way, Harry wanted to protect me - I was an investment. I've always felt partially responsible for his dying." She hesitates. "Did you know there was even a reference to me in Harry's will? His curse was, Now I'm render. I thought, 'It's tough fighting them all the time. Perhaps I should go along with it.' And I bated to feel that. I needed a continuation of real life. I had to get clear of Kim Novak."

Yet the public must co-exist with the private. Long fingers fuss through artful gold corkscrew clusters around the smooth, perfect oval of the face, framing clear, kohl-smudged eyes. Pushing 65, Novak's lustre has become ceremonial; she's aware of what becomes a legend most. Casing the room, instructing her PR handmaiden on the approved type of individual, half-inch false eyelashes required - "black, very, very black" - she studies the available light and instinctively tilts high cheekbones to surf the rays. She's mesmerising, a languid study in slow-motion. Sudden movement is tossed to others. The photographer is ordered to stand, sway, bend, bounce and shoot from above to eliminate any fine lines. He takes mild umbrage, and Novak both teases and charmingly pulls rank: "Tve worked with Billy Wilder. I know what I'm doing.

And she does know what she's doing. A switch flipped. Within seconds she's at full wattage and the photographer is buzzing about, obedient to her command. The seduction would be scandal sheets' favourite party girl - and every woman who dated Aly Khan was then considered a party girl - but, as Novak points out, the director mostly left her be. Literally. She didn't need assistance playing herself.

"Harry didn't get it." Novak notes. "He didn't want me to do Verrigo. He said, 'It's a lousy script.' So I read it expecting a lousy script and I thought, God, this is why I'm here. It wouldn't have been right for anyone else in that period that I can think of. It was predestined. This was who I was. It was what was going on."

Vertigo certainly encapsulates something Novak's other roles exploited. Not just what critics of the period dismissed as her "bovine acceptance" of fate's injuries, although that is stripmined, but the idea that she's seldom quite what she's first presented as. In Bell, Book and Candle. she's a witch pretending to be human; in Boys' Night Out, she's a sociology student posing as a prostitute; in The Notorious Landlady, she's an innocent branded a murderess. There's always someone else behind the glittering facade. Hitchcock, she says, understood facades. "Making Vertigo, I thought Hitchcock knew exactly, and could feel, the oppression of being a woman. Here was someone who was deathly frightened of being *seen* for what he really was... Have you noticed in his movie cameos he seldom presents himself straight on? It's a glimpse, a profile...

"That's why he was so fascinated by women. Our masks. There's an envy too. I think that what many people view as his misogyny is jealousy, that Alfred Hitchcock on some level may have wanted to have been a beautiful blonde. Am I making sense?"

Certainly. It might also explain why Hitchcock allowed himself to be talked into taking Novak on after Vera Miles fell pregnant. "I was too awkward, too self-conscious for Hitchcock. And too inflexible in a lot of ways. But, at the same time. he recognised there was a reason why I was in this: 'There's a reason why I've picked you, though you're not someone I would have first

Perhaps what Hitchcock recognised was the iron will reviewers seldom acknowledged but Harry Cohn sought to crush. Yet what's startling today isn't the flashes of metal under the sequins but Novak's apparent lack of anger. That wouldn't be allowed room on screen until she played Mildred the cockney waitress in the remake of Of Human Bondage, and it hastened her career decline. Weren't there ever days when she woke up choking on her own rage? Or is her stoicism also something inherited from her father, a man who renounced his dream of living in the woods so his wife could stay in the city, and never quite recovered? Novak waves the question away: "Be angry? There's no point. I don't scream and shout and wave banners."

What she did instead was escape. "You know what I used to do when I came to London before? I'd bring a bag full of different looks and adopt a disguise and head for Speakers' Corner.

"I'd get on a soapbox and speak passionately about being a woman, about the planet and nature and all those things. And I was thrilled because the crowds didn't know who I was and they still listened. They took me seriously." Novak brushes a speck of imaginary lint off her flattering black pant suit. "But when I was Kim Novak. no one listened. They just wanted to take my picture. I could only be heard when I wasn't her."



names each as if it's part of a chant and isn't above getting mystical about trees: "Oh, trees move me to tears. They did my father too. A tree is so perfect in its... acceptance. In fact, when I was a girl, I was teased because kids were picking flowers on the way to

school and I'd cry. They'd tell me I was crazy." Harry and Hollywood, of course, told her much the same thing. for daring to speak her mind: "Harry said I was being renamed Kit Marlowe and I said no. He exploded. I was stupid, I was dumb...

"I was made to feel I was continually saying the wrong thing. It was: little girls should be seen and not heard. I wanted to be heard.

One way she made herself heard was by dar-ing Sammy Davis Jur, shocking in an era when white women seen with black men could be, and were beaten. Not that the romance was meant to be a defiant statement about either her inde--18-200-

never going to make another movie for you, Novak'... After he was gone no one knew how to choose, they were all used to him making the decisions. I didn't get many exciting parts after his death. He was a bully, but Harry's humiliations made me stronger, not weaker. He taught

Yet, she, not Cohn has the reputation for tem-perament. It's followed her off the A-list and down the years, so she could seem a rinky-dink cliché. A nutty Norma Desmond figure with an entire zoo-full of monkeys to bury by candlelight. another great beauty abused by the business and turned a little wacko because of it. Gossip, stale gossip, ancient gossip: she was hitched to Shake-spearean Great White Hope Richard Johnson and left him to marry a vet and rear llamas. And no children, just pets and more pets. What does that tell you, hmm?

That's not it," Novak protests. "I never thought of it as a retirement or even a leaving. I was stagnant, playing the same stereotypes. I started to surpure camp if it weren't also utterly professional. Photos taken, Kim Novak switches off as she instantly switched on. Magic Time's over, folks. Not entirely. She's here in London, sitting pretty at the Dorchester (of course) to promote Hitchcock's Vertigo. With the received wisdom of

hindsight, the million-dollar Technicolor touchup is being sold as scarcely sublimated directorial autobiography, Jimmy Stewart's obsessivecompulsive transformation of Novak's Judy into the vision of his dead love Madeleine being exactly the treatment (punishment?) Hitchcock inflicted on his hapless contract signings Tippi Hedren and Vera Miles. Yet the film succeeds in its simultaneously clinical and sumptuously romantic dissection of lovesickness because Vertigo is as much Novak's life story as Hitchcock's.

Each ritual sacrifice Stewart forces Judy through - the dye job, the weight loss, the cosmetic refinements - Harry Cohn had already visited upon "the fat Polack". Hitchcock was congratulated for prising a performance out of the 'Vertigo' goes on release this Friday

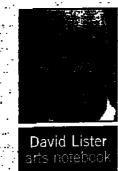
he arts took centre stage, literally, in the election campaign yesterday. Sir Richard Eyre allowed the National Theatre's Lyttelton auditorium to host the main arts debate of the campaign. The only pity was that the cast was one of understudies. Mark Fisher, the No 2

spokesman for Labour, at least has some claims to what Equity might call star status, as he has written most of Labour's policy. But David Mellor for the Tories is a back bencher, whatever his ministerial past, and cannot speak for the Government at all. At least the two main parties managed to find MPs. The Lib Dems didn't. Janet Ludlow, a Tower Hamlets councillor, was the party's

So what happened to the desire of Virginia Bottomiey, Jack Conningham and Robert

MacLellan to star at the National Theatre? Jennifer Edwards, director of the National Campaign for the Arts, has organised the four national debates. (The others, in Birmingham, Manchester and Cardiff, attracted their share of understudies too.) The two main parties told her that Mrs Bottomley and Mr Cunningham were too busy campaigning nationally (and we've heard such a lot from them in the past four weeks, haven't we?). Mr. MacLelian simply has too many briefs apparently.

Perhaps the main party spokespeople have heard reports about how their understudies were put under the spotlight in Cardiff. After rehearsing several platitudes, they were interrupted by the director of Cardiff's Sherman Theatre, who said lack



of funding meant his theatre was likely to close and he would be issuing redundancies soon. The Welsh MPs on stage agreed they could do nothing about it.

Ms Edwards wearily but accurately summed it up: "No, the arts aren't being given sufficient attention in the campaign. But when you've got



sleaze, Europe and fish out of the way, there doesn't seem to be much time left for other issues." Perhaps the National Theatre should have advertised the debate on its neon sign overlooking the Thames as "Arts, Sleaze and Fish - The Way Forward". That might have got the party leaders

in, and a Dimbleby to chair them.

Talking of David Mellor (briefly, I promise you), I see that his namesake, Dr David Mellor, the art expert who curated the Sixties art exhibition at the Barbican a couple of years ago, is curating Les Sixties: Great Britain and France 1962-73, an Anglo-French exhibition for the Brighton Festival. Curiously, on the

publicity material he is now called Dr David Alan Mellor. Why this decision to use his middle name in his middle years? Alan is a nice name, a goodly name. But no need to flaunt it... unless as a serious art historian and academic you are reluctant to be confused with a politician who dabbles in the arts. Dr David Alan is too sensitive. He should relish the confusion. Come the next election campaign, he'll probably be debating arts policy on the stage of the National Theatre.

Ballet has cancelled George Balanchine's Apollo, one of the highlights of the next month. But for once they should be congratulated on the last-minute cancellation. It emerges that The George Balanchine Trust in New York notified the company that it

I'm sorry to learn that the Royal

29 April, the day before the first performance, with no guarantee that approval would then be given. This patronising and offhand attitude takes the biscuit. Having watched Sarah Wildor bring the house down dancing Juliet this week, and Darcey Bussell and Sylvie Guillem provoke a black market in tickets for La Bayadère a fortnight before, I am in no doubt that the Royal Ballet is enjoying a marvellous season. Indeed, Apollo was going to star Darcey Bussell and Irek Mukhamedov, not exactly a cast that needs anyone's prior approval. The guardians of the Balanchine Trust should get off their high horses and read some reviews.

requires detailed casting approval

and moreover would not give the

Apollo until a representative had

seen the final dress rehearsal on

company a licence to perform

arts & books

The mother of reinvention

For three decades, Caryl Churchill has been turning British theatre on its head. Yet, for the past three years, she has gone to ground. With a sudden spate of revivals and new work in the offing, the playwright granted David Benedict a rare interview to explain why

f you could stop MORI polling people about their voting intentions for a few seconds and persuade them to ask people to name this country's greatest living dramatist, most peo-ple would probably plump for Harold Pinter or David Hare. Regardless of their incontestable stature – plays as good as Old Times or Racing Demon don't fall exactly from the trees – a substantial body of opinion would place Caryl Churchill at the top of the list. Only last week, Mark Ravenhill, author of last year's surprise hit Shopping and Fucking wrote: "I read Top Girls at least once a year and I weep. One day, I think, one day I'll write something as good."

For those unlucky enough never to have seen Churchill's definitive play about the 1980s – a daz-zlingly dramatic and politically astute analysis of what it took to rise to the top - which The Guardian awarded the backhanded compliment of being "the best play ever from a woman dramatist" - there's some late news just in. It's unofficial, unannounced and unbelievably overdue, but 1997 is the year of Caryl Churchill. Earlier this year, the National Theatre's tour of her 1976 play set around the English Civil War, Light Shining in Buck-inglumshire, opened at the Cottesloe: Cloud Nine, her magnificently funny and sharp-witted modern classic about patriarchy, patriotism and sexual polities is back in a major revival at the Old Vic; Hotel, her latest collaborative piece for the trailblazing dance / music-theatre company Second Stride opens in London next week, and her new doublebill Blue Heart will open at the Edinburgh Festival in August. All of which goes some way to making up for three barren years.

Her astonishingly ambitious *The Skriker*, a vast social panorama with Kathryn Hunter as a shape-shifting underworld creature, which took Churchill years to write, opened at the National in 1994 to the bafflement of many, who were misled by the production. Others hailed it as a masterpiece. But since then, apart from her translation of Seneca's Thyestes for the Royal Court, the rest has been silence. You could be forgiven for thinking that she'd given up writing. You'd be right. Happily, though, she's had a change of heart; yet the playwright continues to be clusive, shying away from the media circus surrounding the business of theatre. Like much of her finest work, Top Girls was directed by Max Stafford-Clark. He deals with her reticence very simply: "She really wants the work to express what she's doing."

Fair enough. This isn't the disdainful aloofness of some theatrical grande dame. In fact, when she finally accedes to my request to meet during rehearsals for Hotel, she's thoughtful and generous and anxious to dispel any suggestion of frosty, lofty indifference. She apologises for seeming "difficult" but points out the absurdity of our meeting. "It's an odd kind of conversation," she muses, "there's more going on than just two people in a room.



of people, and when it's printed, it has a definitive quality which then gets quoted back at you 15 years later. It's also not a conversation because it's so one way..." And then, all of a sudden, the guarded nervousness gives way to laughter. "Never mind," she says, the shutters opening to reveal a welcoming smile leaping across her face.

She was an only child. Her father, a cartoonist, and her mother, a fashion model, moved from London to Montreal when she was 10, and she began writing short stories and producing living-room pantomimes. At 14, she wrote a full-length children — before anyone dreamed of the term, Joint Stock paoand ponies book and was also improvising plays neered a collaborative approach to playwriting, poser Orlando Gough for Second Stride. "Hotel with a friend. "We would work out in some detail what was going to happen and we would play it, and, if we hadn't quite liked how it went, we would play it again." During her time at Oxford at the end of the Fifties, she won first prize at the National Student Drama Festival with her play Downstairs. Her first work to receive a professional production was The Anis, a radio play, a form which suited her wholly devised plays but I've never gone that far into formal experiment is matched by no on because there was a market for it (and no fringe collaboration." Joint Stock's method was based on country except Lloyd Newson and DV8.

You're doing your job. It's going to be read by a lot theatre in the early Sixties) and because she was an extended workshop / research period, after which raising her children.

The (then) estimable theatre journal Plays and Players declared Light Shining in Buckinghamshire, in which different actors played the same character, to be "one of the finest pieces of English play-wrighting for years", but the big break came three years later in 1979 with Cloud Nine. Like Light Shining, it was written for Max Stafford-Clark's company Joint Stock and its dynamite cast (including Julie Covington, Antony Sher and Miriam Margolyes) who were wittily embracing gender-bending long something which has had a marked effect on Churchill and scores of writers since. "It was very exhilarating because it was a completely different way of working." Wasn't it scary giving up authorial control? "Yes, a little bit, but there's a misconception sometimes that the actual writing process becomes collaborative. Some companies create

the writer would go away and write. "And then there is more rewriting in rehearsal because you've got a group of people you work with and trust. And they trust you because you've all shared that research time. I would be much more open to changing things

than if it had been something I had written alone." Since then, Churchill's work has split between plays created on her own and those that have grown out of collaboration, notably the dance/ theatre works The Lives of the Great Poisoners and the forthcoming two-part Hotel, both written with long-term started from an idea I had of something which might work as an opera with Orlando, which was of eight lots of people in eight rooms, which would appear on stage as one room." Eyebrows might be raised at the idea of a dance company presenting an opera, but if anyone can pull it off, it's these three whose experience, versatility and sheer success rate with formal experiment is matched by no one in this Caryl Churchill: "I just got bored with it. That feeling of "Was I going to start thinking about another play just because I was a playwright?"

"She reinvents herself every time," says Stafford-Clark, who points to Churchill's constant formal experimentation in the creation of overlapping dialogue in *Top Girls* or her comedy of City greed, *Serious Maney*, written entirely in (deeply unfashionable) verse. Despite British Telecom's refusal to allow the use of its phones on stage ("This is a production with which no public company would wish to be associated"), it transferred to the West End and became a musch bit Stafford-Clark, however, admits to finda smash hit. Stafford-Clark, however, admits to finding her challenge terrifying. "She asks you to do things that haven't been done before. You think, 'Maybe it won't work, and we can't do it'." He obviously thrives on the terror, though, and you can hear the thrill in his voice as he prepares to team up again for Blue Heart. Other playwrights are more famous, he concedes, but then counters: "Her influence has been enormous and not just on other writers. You go into schools and you tell them 'We're doing some plays by Caryl Churchill' and that she might be involved and teachers faint and genufiect. She

shaped the way they teach and think about drama." When Churchill began writing, virtually the only other major female dramatist was Agatha Christie. Perhaps her most significant move was the shift away from the semi-autobiographical stance adopted by women novelists. Theatre is a much more public artform and Churchill has taken that to heart, making ideas, emotions and structure indivisible. I point out that almost none of her plays follow the traditional route of the journey of a single protagonist, an idea that surprises her. She mulis it over. "When I was working with Joint Stock, I think there was a strong anti-sentimental feeling about in theatre. There was an attraction to making continuities with dramatic ideas rather than going a long way down an emotional journey... which didn't mean there wouldn't be very emotional things." That's certainly borne out by the poignant final image in Tom Cairns's new pro-duction of *Cloud Nine*, where the mother confronts the ghostly image of her younger self.

With all this year's burst of dramatic activity, can it be true that, three years ago, she stopped writing? She tenses up again. Then relents, "Oh, I don't mind..." She runs a long hand through a mane of silver hair. "I just got bored with it. That feeling of Was I going to start thinking about another play just because I was a playwright?' I've had it before. I remember that, in 1978, I decided I definitely wasn't ig to de a writer any more. It took me about four months to get out of my head the idea that I was a writer and once I'd done it, of course, I started writing again." Her laughter fills the chilly rehearsal room. She looks at me, confidingly, her gaunt, gravely beautiful head resting on one hand. "I think I wanted to wait until I missed it."

'Cloud Nine': Old Vic, London (0171-928 7616) to 26 Apr, 'Hotel': the Place, London from Tues-Sat (0171-387 0161) and the Manchester Dance House 2-3 May (0161-237 9753)

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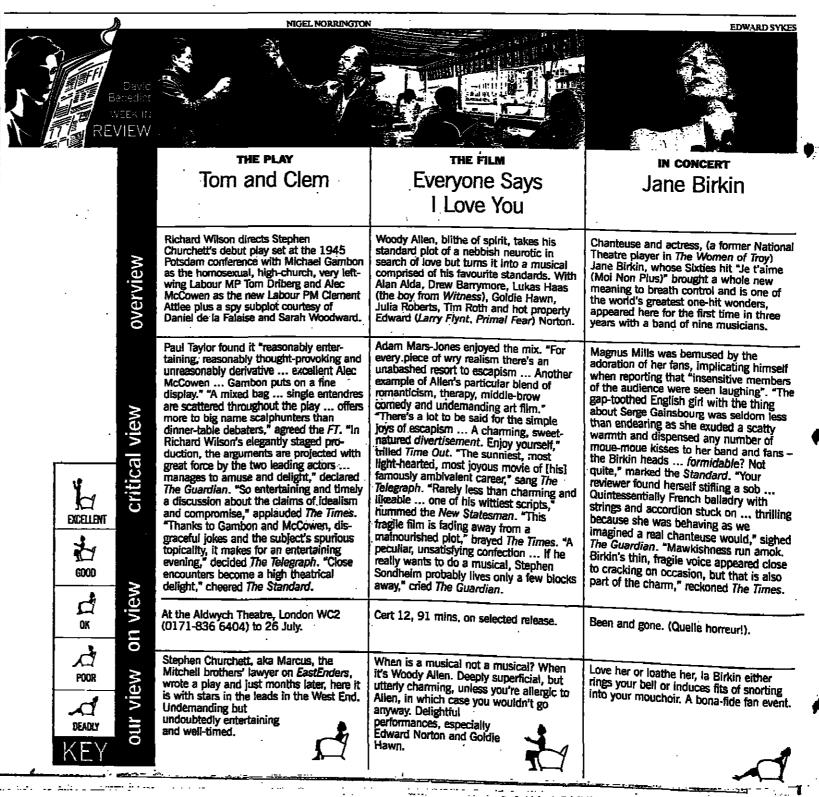
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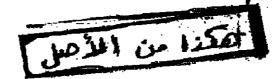
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telling him to 'Take off your shirt, put on some baby oil and let's have you on Top of the Pops'

Miracles will happen

At 17, Paul Reid was being hailed as the great black hope of British jazz. A decade later, he's busy reinventing himself as a serious composer. Why, he's even written an opera. By Phil Johnson

lready, perhaps, there are historical dissertations in cultural studies being written about the British jazz revival of the midto late-Eighties. This was a period when no lager ad was complete without a tooting bebop saxophonist either in the frame or on the soundtrack, and when products as diverse as aftershave and credit cards were given a new jazz spin. It was the period of Courtney Pine's first, incredibly successful album; of an Art Blakey residency at Ronnie Scott's that attracted droves of young jazz aspirants; and of cover stories in the style mags which, being fairly new themselves, were a ready market for cool monochrome pies of elegantly moody black men to place alongside ads for expensive clothes and parfums.

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mainly black artists were that, even with the attendance signed up by the record com- of luvvie Prince Edward groovpanies, made their debut albums and then, as the market began to recede, found is one of those worthy, comthemselves cruelly abandoned munity-arts "let's do the show to a career of cappuccino- right here!" kind of Mickey money gigs in bars and cafés across town. Even the spiritual Reid's take on the project is home of the period, Camden's that of a latter-day Neo- music for voices and string Jazz Café, was taken over by Platonist, and he has com- quartet but people said no. its upstairs bar colonised by drunken ex-Pogues.

The composer and pianist casualty and a beneficiary of those years. At the precocious ties than it does to the yoofage of 17, he made the cover of jazz mag The Wire as Richard's gloriously camp Sheffield's answer to avantgarde American free-jazz pianist Cecil Taylor. He supported Norwegian saxophonist Jan Garbarek on a national tour and was assimilated into the avant-garde end of the Reid (whose brief burst of new jazz ascendancy, mixing late-Eighties fame was as plain

the Almeida's contemporary music events and becoming known as a face that The Face should watch. Then, as the jazz vogue subsided, he more or less disappeared from view at the ripe old age of 18, while the style mags moved on to dance-music and jazz was once again bumped back down the demographic scale to a niche occupied mainly by middleaged men in cardigans. Reid hadn't even arrived before he was gone, or so it seemed.

But he has, of course, prevailed and this Thursday his new opera, Miracles, is to be premiered at the Royal Albert Hall (no less) as part of the "Miracles Project", a vastly ambitious programme of inner-city youth music and dance that appears as part of the Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme (and let's see A new jazz generation of the style mags make a meal of ing to the vibes).

> Lest it seem that the event Rooney Hollywood-updates. frame of reference that owes of the Cabbala and the Gnoswork ethic of Sir Cliff

"The Young Ones". Arriving slightly late for our interview appointment at his studio - a monk-like cell of a rehearsal room near the Wigmore Hall - Paul Gladstone

with Taylor and John Cage at Paul Reid) can't resist a quick dart over the keys of his piano. Dressed in neat Nike leisurewear and with a face still beautiful enough to base a poncy lager-ad on, he's a wonderfully entertaining motormouth who takes pains to establish the various stages of his Pauline conversion from hip jazz pianist to serious composer. Indeed, he's so intent on setting the record straight that he doesn't stop talking for an hour, towards the end of which I begin to feel almost physically ill from the relentless onslaught of it all.

"Back then," he says of the short-lived jazz renaissance, "I was fighting against the smoochy, cigarette-holder, safe-1950s, Athena-poster type thing and while most of my contemporaries got into the Marsalis brothers, I got into the art-music of the African diaspora. I came to London and met Cecil Taylor, John Cage and Anthony Braxton and I was on that edge where Afro-American art-music was meeting the contemporary avant-garde of Europe.

And I was the only one doing solo piano at that time; every one else was doing, like, ding-ding-ding. I was writing posed a contemporary "Mys- you're supposed to get a nice tery Opera" that places little jazz trio going. So I age-old archetypes within a realised that there was a shortterm hipness which went Paul Gladstone Reid is both a more to the hermetic tradition around the media, of how it's cool to drink coffee and chatter in the background, but I didn't kid myself that it was a foundation for anything. It was straight back to 1950s bebop and that was the only space if you wanted to have some coverage, but to me it was not seriously representative of the late 20th century."



were openings for me to go to Berklee, to the New England Conservatory or to the Guildhall and I had people arguing over my head over what I should be, but I realised that one path would cancel out the other. To study piano meant that you would dedicate your whole life to becoming an interpreter of existing repertoire, to be one person competing against thousands for the chance to perform a concerto at a competition, like painting by numbers, or to be studying serialism in a way divorced from its roots so that

importance of, say, numerol-Accordingly, Reid educated himself and ended up in the musicians' ghetto of the streets around the Wigmore Hall, where in 1990 he got a gig demonstrating a new midi-piano for Steinway. "I did a whole concert but the last two tunes had a beat behind them and when I got an encore, I didn't know what to do so I decided to sing, something that normally I only did in private. Suddenly But, frustratingly for Reid, I was descended upon by all the classical world didn't offer these music-biz figures want-

one wouldn't understand the

recorded an album, but it and built bridges with wasn't a happy experience. They thought they could bring it to the common denominator of 'He's black, he plays the piano, maybe if we give him some sunglasses he can be a new Stevie Wonder'. It was like, 'Sure you can compose, but come on, take off your shirt and put on some baby oil and let's have you on Top of the Pops.' Eventually, I was threatened in the studio. and the engineers were told not to allow me to use electric guitars because they weren't but basically Reid uses his 'black' enough. This was idea of music as part of the before Tricky and before Seal hermetic tradition originating - it was like you had to be in Babylon and Chaldea and Terry Riley or MC Hammer and their idea was that, if you were young and black, you should be doing rap and saying 'Yo!'. The album was released, unfinished and unmixed, but still girls started to write in to My Guy saying,

your favourite fish?" Reid re-oriented himself by forming a partnership with fellow composer and kora player Tunde Jegede, with

Available in a choice

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'You've got a sexy bod, what's

music toured and recorded bles. Though their battle for recognition is only half-won. the "Miracles Project" is an important station along the way, with Reid's opera to be performed by a chorus of up to 500 voices, full orchestra (the London Musici, directed by

Mark Stephenson), electronic

music ensemble, African per-

cussion troupe and a rock

The theory of it all is too complicated to go into here. reaching out from Bach's Golden Mean as far as Debussy and the School of Paris to form a whole alternative theory of musical production. If you want to know more, Reid will probably be happy to come round to your home to explain it all to you in

'Miracles: The Concert': Thurswhom he established the day 7.30pm Royal Albert Hull, Axiom Foundation, and their London SW7 (0171-589 8212) port between Elliot and the

person. Be sure to leave the

evening free, though. It might

take a while.

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So it's hello and goodbye, girl

THEATRE The Goodbye Girl Albery Theatre, London

ie Goodbye Girl had to bid a fairly rapid farewell Hamlisch Zippel musicalisa-tion of Neil Simon's hit movie proved to be no Hello, Dolh! at the box-office. Watching the extensively reworked version premiered now at the Albery prompts the thought that, if this really does represent a major improvement, then one needn't be exactly inconsolable

at having missed the original. The fact is that the show rarely justifies itself as a piece of musical theatre. Giving the emotions breathing space in song (and the audience some velcome respite from Simon's relentlessly wise-cracking diaogue) merely exposes how tritely conceived and/or shony these emotions are. Having a chorus on standby for just two stage-filling numbers (one set in a bitchy New York exercise class; the other a spoof-fantasy of a glamorous movie musical) only underlines the basic resistance of this material to

being turned into a songand-dance show. What the piece needs is heart. But director Rob Bettinson's idea of heart is to dim the stage and throw a shaft of heavenly white radiance on Ann Crumb's beroine, as if a visitation from the angel Gabriel were imminent, whenever she unbosoms herself in a solo song. Crumb, in fine Ann Crumb and Gary Wilmot voice, plays Paula, the Photograph: Tristram Kenton defensive divorcee (and

single parent) who finds herself musical theatre from the botsharing her apartment with a tom of the barrel. struggling off-Broadway actor. In the latter role, you need someone who can start out and, evoking a collision abrasively self-centred and between Dick Emery and Barcocky, and gradually find the bara Cartland, even keeps the obligatory warm human being comedy going as a transsexual within, as much through contact with the 11-year-old daughter as with the mother.

But if there were a Nobel prize for niceness, you would unhesitatingly award it to Gary Shezwae Powell as the landlady. Wilmot, whose sunny good nature (the essence of his strong appeal) shines through even in the earlier stages of his hundred years," sings Elliot: I winning portrayal of Elliot. Not that the show is much concerned with plausible development. The reasons for the rap-

daughter are so under-dramatised, you're tempted to put it down to some magic ingredient in the breakfast cereal they eat on the first morning. As played by Lucy Evans, the girl is just the kind of smart-ass American kid that makes you muse longingly on the death of Little Nell

You've never seen the world from a father's shoulders. I've never seen the world through a daughter's eyes." Elliot warbles to this brat as he climactically overcomes her mistrust. With Hamlisch's unblushingly glutinous melody at this point (like most of the score, both anodyne and mechanical) and with the mawkish lyrics of his new collaborator, Don Black, you eertainly feel that you've seen



There are compensations, Wilmot is charming and funny Richard III in that overbroad skit of an off-Broadway production. The show-stopper. though, is a sizzlingly comic redhot momma number from

You still come out wondering why any of them ever bothered. "This show's gonna run for a fancy that the life expectancy of The Goodbye Girl will be considerably shorter. Booking: 0171-369 1730

CLASSICAL Handel's Alexander Balus Queen Elizabeth Hall, London

Giving Cleopatra the needle

Britain" would no doubt develop sweaty palms when quizzed about the identity of Alexander Balus, one of those awkward biblical characters who might easily he mistaken for a pioneer of quantum theory or for the inventor of some handy Mutus was clearly recognised by Handel's contemporaries, however, allowing the composer and his librettist Thomas Morrell to construct an oratorio on the military campaigns of the Jewish warlord, his loveaffair with Cleopatra and hoped for conversion of the infidel to the one true God.

The gist of Morrell's plot, extracted from the First Book of the Maccabees and decorated with fragments drawn from Milton and Shakespeare, turns uncomfortably on the public celebration of Jewish patriotism and the private love of Alexander and Cleopatra. Handel was eager to repeat the popular success in April 1747 of his sabrerattling oratorio, Judas Maccabaeus, and swiftly ordered another militaristic text from Morrell. History has it that the composer collaborated closely with his libretust on Alexander Balus, although the work reflects on Handel's original Alexander, that

THEATRE Lulu (adapted by Angela Carter)

Harrogate Theatre, Yorkshire

Prospective candidates for "Brain of more its hasty composition than any "there was always something spirited and obvious care taken over dramatic pacing," interesting in her manner", with equal force Last Wednesday, at the QEH, the con- to Denley's performance, but too often it ductor Robert King went some way towards redefining the accepted view of Alexander Balus as a "problem" oratorio, responding with verve to Handel's colourhousehold appliance. His Old Testament ful instrumentation and offsetting the score's lack of contrast between major and minor keys by his shrewd choice of speeds. Judicious pruning of certain arias and da capo sections served King's cause. as did the industrious, often breathtaking work of his Consort and of New College

Choir. But the dramatic torpor of the first

two acts outweighed the best efforts of conductor and band, further undermined

seemed remote and emotionally tepid. Conversely. Lynne Dawson's Cleopatra was sensually hot but lacked the commanding technical control of her partner. She was at her best in the captivating "Hark! hark! he strikes the golden lyre", deliciously scored for two flutes, strings, harp and man-dolin, with theorbo and organ continuo, and the genuinely moving "O take me from this hateful light", Cleopatra's initially unaccompanied response to news of the deaths of Alexander and of her treacherous father Ptolemy. Of the other soloists, Claron Mc-Fadden did as much as humanly possible to raise Aspasia's airs above the ordinary. succeeding notably in "So shall the sweet attractive smile", while Michael George powerfully underlined Ptolemy's implaca-ble side. Faced with the break-neck speed set for "Hateful man!", Charles Daniels negotiated the prolonged coloratura passages without sustaining any obvious injury apart

Andrew Stewart

by the lifeless early contributions of Catherine Denley as Alexander and Charles Daniels' stiff delivery of Jonathan's recitatives. In matters of style and technique, Denley proved beyond reproach, shifting into vocal top gear for such heroic airs as "Mighty love now calls to arms" and "Fury, with red sparkling eyes". I wish it from possible damage to his credentials as were possible to apply Dr Burney's remarks a truly heroic Handelian tenor.

The writing's off the wall

rank Wedekind was obviously struggling in his Lulu plays and audiences have struggled with them ever since. He wrote several different versions and subsequently other artists, including Alban Berg, GW Pabst and Edward Bond, have made their own re-writings. Part of the struggle lay with early 20th-century censorship, but it's clear that part too was with the intractable intensity of Wedekind's vision of sexual relations and

the dissonance of his dramatic form. Andrew Manley's new staging is of Wedekind's original play, Luhe A Monster Tragedy, and premieres the version by the late Angela Carter originally commissioned by the National but never performed ful in finding a way through the play's dramatic difficulties and understanding its the matic concerns. Writing of the "false matic concerns. Writing of the "false matic concerns." Writing of the "false matic concerns. To 3 May. Booking: 01423 502116 desire, the corresponding part is Lulu's

Carter cites graffiti as "the most public form eventual destruction by the apotheosis of of sexual iconography", one that draws its male hatred, Jack the Ripper.

power from the mythic scheme that in all relations between men and women "man proposes and woman is disposed of". It is this kind of "savage denial of the complexity of human relations", presented in the lurid, brutal and often comic outlines of graffiti, that we can see at work in Lulu. Picked off the streets as a child flower-

seller to be seduced and abused by Dr Schoen. Lulu becomes a femme fatale whose power, Carter says, comes not from the mystery of some sultry depths, but from her lightsome transparency - a quality here wonderfully created in Federay Holmes's heroic performance. The show's first image presents Lulu as a man-

This concluding scene is unsparingly

horrific here. The melodramatic guignol of earlier scenes, including Lulu's shooting of Schoen, can be seen in retrospect as the graffiti artist in entertaining mood before he sets his pen to its most vicious strokes. This is the dissonant, mixed theatrical style that Brecht was to take up and improve upon.

Like all rep theatres, Harrogate must adjust its programming towards a mean. But artistic director Andrew Manley's pragmatism can, as in his juxtaposing of Lulu and Pygmalion, produce interesting ideas, especially since each year he always includes a show as bold as this. For the sake of theatre in the region and further afield, it is to be hoped Harrogate's current fund-

Jeffrey Wainwright

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week in books

Boyd Tonkin

ckness is a kind of foreign land – a territory with its own rules and rites that most people visit now and then. No one wishes to return (though many will) as an expat on a one-way ticket. And sickroom literature so grievously enriched by Aids - has more in common with travel writing than case-histories. However bizarre the terrain, reports from the country of the ill can only hold their readers if at least some of the landmarks look familiar.

Hence Jean-Dominique Bauby – former editor-in-chief of Elle in Paris – had more than one mountain to climb when he set out to compose a memoir in the wake of the mighty stroke he suffered, aged 42, in December 1995.
The way he did so, while deprived of all speech and movement, has already enthralled the global media. Left by the utter paralysis of "Locked-In Syndrome" with just one mobile eyelid, he used in the global media. it to signal each letter of each word as helpers read the alphabet to him. "Crossword fans and Scrabble players have a head start" in anticipating nascent words, as visitors reel off letters arranged according to their frequency in French: ESARINTULOMDPCFBVHGJQZYXKW.

This, then, is Bauby's despatch from the island of Esarintulom, a lonely colony of Qwertyuiop, where other writers live. He published it four days before his death on 9 March. This week, Fourth Estate issues Jeremy Leggatt's translation as The Diving-Bell and the Butterfty (£9.99). His news comes from an unimaginably distant place: "your chances of being caught in this hellish trap are about as likely as those of winning the lottery". So how can he show us around?

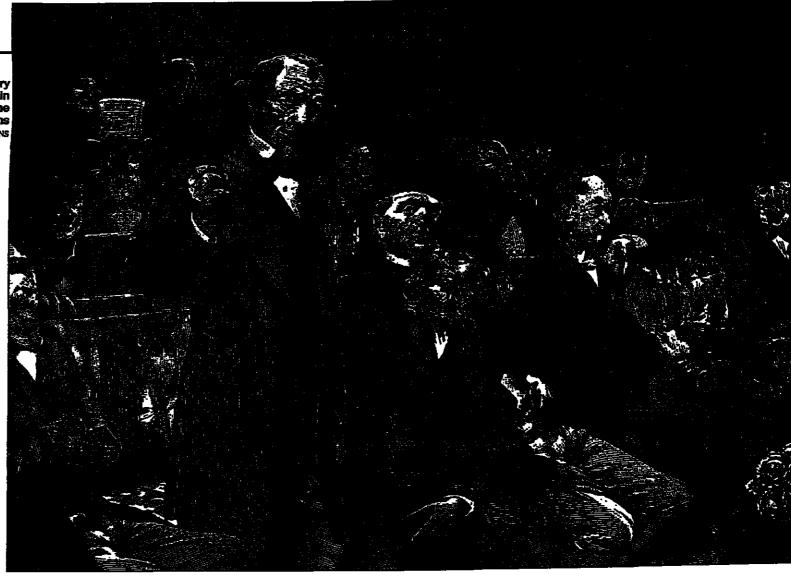
For the most part, he does so by sticking with his old alert, slightly offhand self. This vain and driven personality, you feel, changed not one jot with disability. On the morning of his stroke, the modification left "the lithe warm body of a tall." media sultan left "the lithe warm body of a tall dark-haired girl" who was not his wife to spend the day test-driving a BMW. Having coolly consumed the pleasures of health and wealth, and just as coolly watched them vanish, he sets about restoring them in feats of memory. One day, he will sit down to a mental banquet of "a dozen snails, a plate of Alsatian sausage with sauerkraut, and a bottle of late-vintage golden Gewurztraminer"; the next, he will fly to Hong Kong and tramp "neon-bright streets where pocket computers and noodle soup are sold".

As the book records these triumphs of the will, its emotional tone stays muted. "I can weep discreetly", Bauby admits. The tangled drama of his private life - a home abandoned, frantic bids to keep the love of two children, a much younger girlfriend - barely breaks the surface. Jean-Do had no saintly aspirations and, for all his gourmet hedonism, not too much sensitivity. Yet it's just this ruthless bourgeois equipoise that serves him so well as tour-guide to this alien planet. We can share his outlandish isolation precisely because he asks for so little in the way of empathy or absolution. At times, the book reminded me of the icy clarity Simone de Beauvoir brought to her account of Sartre's descent into blind, incontinent confusion in La Cérémonie des Adieux - a rigour that, in its own stoic way, crowned a lifetime's love.

With Bauby, that stale cliché about the "Cartesian logic" of French thought proves true, as what's at stake is a total split of mind and body. In his prison, Jean-Do really does exist to think. The result is a hugely absorbing narrative, but not one that touches or uplifts quite as much as readers might expect. The state of sickness offers some unique sights to literary trippers. But you really wouldn't want to live there.

First, and greatest, of Tory novelists: Benjamin Disraeli addresses the House of Commons PHOTOGRAPH: MARY EVANS

A cosy Left-Liberal orthodoxy has stunted recent British fiction. D J Taylor cuts down the pinks



What a carve-up

ot long ago, at some literary junket, I found myself locked in solemn discussion with a Booker Prize-winning novelist on the state of politics. Perhaps this is too fey a description for an argument that ended with Novelist X simply repeating, with a kind of talismanic regularity, the words Mrs Thatcher was evil. What does one do in such circumstances? I murmured something about parliamentary democracies, the transparent unelectability of the Foot-led Labour Party – all the familiar bromides one comes out with when confronted with this sort of liberal bigotry - but it was no good. Mrs Thatcher was evil, you see, and that was all there was to it. In the end I slunk away.

One of the dreariest spectacles of 18 years of Tory rule (and I write as a sup-porter of the Labour Party) has been the sight of some grand literary panjandrum

- Martin Amis, say, or Julian Barnes rising up to lecture us on the depravity of the modern Conservative Party. This reaction may seem ungenerous, given the quietism of the average literary type, but it stems from the complete lack of political awareness displayed by nearly every leftish novelist since 1979. Four Conservative victories; 14 million votes in 1992. Callaghan, Foot, Kinnock (twice) all lined up and found wanting. Thatcherism is quietly admitted through An irrevocable shift in the way our the back door with the Habitat furnational life gets conducted, many of nishings; merely to say that in their left- a lowering standoff between the conwhose stanchions can be found prop- wing equivalents the bait is always tending claims of his Socialist Worker ping up the current Labour Party manifesto, but no - Mrs Thatcher was evil.

It is easy enough to ignore such pronouncements, if only because they have no practical effect. Would anyone seri-

But the consequences of this kind of tastic resentment of our contemporary attitude for the novel have been profoundly depressing. The unreflecting anti-Conservatism of writers has had three main effects. Most obviously, it has produced double standards of the kind that pretend to criticise - say -Kingsley Amis or Anthony Powell on aesthetic grounds while actually denigrating them for being cross-grained Old Tories. Second, it has reinforced the literary world's reputation for Hampstead elitism. Third, and most important of all, it has given rise to a particular kind of dramatised sociology masquerading as the literary novel.

A tract for the times can still harbour people with some kind of life of their own 7

To make this point is not to ignore the shelves of popular novels in which hap-pily married families of four on £100,000 a year relocate to the West Country, and Margaret Drabble's The Witch of Exmoor (Penguin, £6.99) for example, features a gang of prosperous bourgeois whose abstract interest in social justice

"mud of meatless burgers, drifting garbage, false coinage, hot vomit, cor-ruption, greed, triviality". And hats off to Ms Drabble, you might say, were it not that this clamorous note dominates to the exclusion of all others and that its authentication comes not in character but from racked-up statistics. There are only 350 child psychotherapists in the whole of Great Britain, the black and ethnic population of Somerset hovers between 0.8 and 1.4 per cent, and it's all the Conservatives' fault!

Worse, perhaps, is the fact that Drabble is still driven to fury by the thought that anyone might derive personal advantage from whatever skills they happen to possess. You leave the book with a queer feeling that any kind of success is inherently suspect because it is achieved at someone else's expense.

The same kind of political claustrophobia, more imaginatively expressed, can be found in fiction set lower down the social scale. Livi Michael's recent. All The Dark Air (Secker, £9.99) is a painfully honest and warm-hearted piece of work, but its point, you feel, is much the same as Drabble's. A dim, aimless girl leaves home and picks up with a long-admired but indifferent boyfriend who unbends sufficiently to tumbledown house. The book turns into stodgier and much more conspicuous. rants and Julie's naive dabbling in alternative healing. No prizes for guessing whose fault it is. The thought that people have the capacity to make choices, that not every homeless person is a

Inevitably, Michael's point - which scarcely applies to Drabble's cargo of after-dinner mint-nibblers - is that many ordinary people don't have the ability to make choices, and that this inanition is abetted by authority. Yet the heroes of great working-class novels of the first half of the century by, for exam-ple, Robert Tressell and Walter Green-wood, managed to transcend the cru-cible in which the contract of the crucible in which they were conceived. A tract for the times can still harbour people with some kind of life of their own. Look at the actual political arena, and all that exists is a hole in the air. Critics are fond of pointing out the innate

▲ Most left-wing novels read as if they were written by contributors to the Guardian letters page 7

native answer to Primary Colors or an

For some reason, however old-fash-

nearly always display a shrewder understanding of the way life in England has changed in the past 20 years.

For all the implausibilities of its storyline – Europhobic defence minister found floating in the Saar, hints of an aristo-Fascist plot – Piers Paul Read's new Knights of the Cross (Weidenfeld & Nicolson, £16.99) touches on a theme that most serious contemporary writers hardly bother to consider. Europe and the national relationships that complicate its evolution. In those novels that consider international themes this tendency is more pronounced. The message of Timothy Mo's Brownout on Breadfruit Boulevard - that corruption in the Philippines is the inhabitants' fault - would have the average left-leaning expert on South-East Asia gnashing his teeth in rage, but as a novel it seems much more convincing than the tracts such problems usually throw up.

Meanwhile, what has happened to the radical conscience of the English novel? With a few exceptions (for example, Jonathan Coe's What A Carve Up!) you feel that it has largely been taken over by what might be called the Hampsuperiority of American writing, stead Redistributive Tendency, to whom Nowhere is this divide more obvious the last 18 years have brought only a than in the political novel, when the series of incalculable defeats in the fight for social equity, and who still look the older work like John Gregory Dunne's other way whenever a politician men-The Red, White and Blue lies in the flar- tions the word meritocrat. One lesson ing surfaces and cattleprod psychology that Margaret Drabble and her imitaof Michael Dobbs and Edwina Currie. tors might learn is that not everyone. Curiously, when a British novelist who voted Conservative between 1979 does show some political awareness and 1997 did so out of simple greed. At beyond the Thatcher-is-evil reflex, he or the moment, though, most left-wing she nearly always comes from the Right. novels read as if they were written by contributors to the Guardian letters ously contemplate voting Labour is given a practical focus by their dead because Julian Barnes advised them to? mother's will. It is underpinned by a fanwashed away on a tide of determinism.

Max Egremont and Ferdinand Mount and for English fiction.

will take you on the ride of your life...





Independent choice: self-help

By Veronica Groocock

rief is so very personal that to set out to define in words its shades and strands can be highly problematic. Easier, perhaps, to capture its essence in music or painting, "Words just can't express...", we begin, tentatively, as if any attempt at articulating profound loss might

somehow dilute its intensity.
Yet in Out Of Me (Viking, £16), her moving story of a postnatal breakdown following the birth of her second child Jesse, Fiona Shaw succeeds in engaging us totally. This is a harrowing tale, eloquently told, of Shaw's journey to self-understanding through suicidal despair. First came her realisation that "grinning and bearing it" was not an option, then her refusal of food ("making myself into some terrible parody of the baby I had given birth to just nine days earlier"). She arrives in the Mother and Baby unit of a psychiatric hospital, where she is later sectioned: a nurse finds her by the adjacent railway line and leads her

indoors "like a naughty child". What followed reads like the ultimate nightmare scenario: the relentless monitoring and lack of privacy, self-harming, 16 sessions of ECT. Shaw's account of the latter is particularly shocking: the punitive treatment, heaped on suffering, compounded her isolation and diminishing sense of self. Husband Hugh, in his diary, sees her as "shellshocked". Afterwards, there is no polite conversation or shared stories merely "stunned silence", with the tea and biscuits and two round red marks on the forehead to mark the patients' 'complicity" in "this horrible drama".

Then there was the memory loss, a major legacy of ECT Shaw writes passionately about life at the edge of the abyss, how it feels to be rendered powerless by "treatment" that seems to border on barbarism. Following one scant: "I know nothing of the brush and touch of my days with Hugh, Eliza and Jesse, not a single breakfast, story, bathtime, tantrum, nappy change or cuddle". All the cherished minutiae of

a life have been wiped out forever. After more ECT, twice-weekly therapy proved the catalyst which, with her writing, has been vital to recovery. Her narrative is interwoven with others' observations. But it is her voice that shines through, angry yet not bitter, hungry for answers, aware that the roots of her breakdown were planted in her early life.

In The Bird of My Loving: a personal response to loss and grief (Michael Joseph, £15.99), Mary Sheepshanks writes in a more downto-earth way about multiple losses: the death of her baby, the illness and death of her husband. She also includes conversations with others

about how they rebuilt their lives. What angered Fiona Shaw most was the lack of psychological support. That service is lovingly provided by Marie de Hennezel, a psychologist who worked with a team of doctors and nurses in a hospital for the terminally ill in Paris. Her book Intimate Death: bow the dying teach us to live (Little, Brown, £14.99) is an inspirational record of her experiences in the hospital's Palliative Care Unit. Dying is society's last taboo and this book, in its honesty, warmth and humanity, helps overcome it. Written with compassion and sympathy, the book eschews denial, transforming the unpalatable into something humane.

Its simple, anecdotal style illustrates how death can bring peace, dignity and meaning into lives, enriching both patient and carer - unconditional love in action. The writer encouraged patients to live each day as fully as possible, and an underlying thread is the importance of living in the now. Time can stretch or shrink

Out of Me JATHARITON RE HOTELINE FIONA SHAW Pick of the week Out of Me by Fiona Shaw

according to its context. With the dying, it is moments that matter. In other traumas, like Shaw's postnatal breakdown, time can drag or even stop altogether. In Elizabeth Kaye's Mid-Life; notes from the halfway mark (Fourth Estate, £12), time seems more like an enemy, creeping up on us unawares like a thief in the night.

Kaye was 35 when she became aware of a deep sorrow "whose cause was not immediately apparent"; she alludes to her own growing obsession with time, "a diagnostic feature of my descent into mid-life crisis". She interweaves her feelings with vivid references to places, landscapes, food. Her writing is inventive and colourful, mixing the sensual and cerebral, mesmerised by "life's choreography, by the balletic precision with which lives intertwine, by the inexorable entrances and exits of friends and circumstances, lovers and family". This is a wistful, but by no means depressing book about the need to let go - of people, expectations, dreams - and the futility of looking back. The "good old days", she avers, are a mirage, never as good as when they are new.

Nice and grim

Dea Birkett breaks the ice

Do White Whales Sing at the Edge of the World? by Paul Wilson, Granta, £15.99

ometimes clichés illuminate more than any Clever phrase ever could. The words we use most -'nice", "grim", "fantastic" – may prove more apt than any inventive adjective. So the fact that this book can be summed up in a stock sentence - "All life is a journey" - is not to be sniffed at. This tired maxim is given fresh meaning by Paul Wilson's disturbing third

Do White Whales Sing at the Edge of the World? takes a familiar footstepping story -20th-century hero traces the route of pioneering explorer and twists it into a bleak, powerful and, ultimately, unfamiliar tale. Wilson interweaves the life of Gabriel Emerson, growing up in northern England during the Second World War, with that of his namesake, Emerson the Elizabethan explorer. Both came from the same mining town, both were working class boys, and both longed to be

someone and somewhere else. Gabriel's mother died giving birth to him, and his father became a caretaker for a hotel-cum-brothel frequented by Italian and German internees who worked in the town. When five local boys went missing including Gabriel's older brother, their families believed it was the internees who had stolen and killed them. Young Gabriel witnessed the town's revenge - the internees were burnt to

death in a barn. From that day, he did not speak and he is put in a local home for the "feeble-minded". To escape, Gabriel recreates in his mind the Elizabethan Emerson's final voyage in search of the North West Passage, "sustained by a journey in a

singing sea of ice.
The Elizabethan Emerson is said to have written to his son, "Sometimes, not going is the death. Sometimes, not setting off is the betrayal". For both Emersons, stillness is tantamount to dying. Gabriel's incarceration, Emerson's men trapped in the Arctic ice: both are harbingers of death. The white whales of the title continue innocently feeding in a fjord as the mouth freezes over. Soon, the ice reaches so far that the whales cannot hold their breath long enough to escape under it into the open sea. The ice grows over

them until they suffocate. If all life is a journey, anything that lives must be on the move. In this novel, motions, large or small, are the lungs of life. But all journeys have an ending, and Gabriel's home is closing down. He has nowhere to go except towards death. Refusing to leave, he surrenders to the cold, like his namesake, and is frozen – immobilised - by the ice. Sometimes the book threatens to strangle itself on excessive symbolism, and its bleakness can be trying. These journeys are uncomfortable paths to tread - and read. Do White Whales Sing at the Edge of the World? is not a nice novel, but it is grim and fantastic.

عكذا من الأصل



More Cola than Karma

Sunil Khilnani takes a literary tour of India, where English writing blossoms as the Raj roses fade



lways beguiling, exotic, fragrant, contradictory, and now in "the middle of tumultuous change": welcome to India!, Granta's latest release. Wrapped in the amiable kitsch of Hindi cinema, bursting with stars, this special edition - together with Gita Mehta's assembled musings signal open season on India. Just in case you haven't worked out why, Mehta's book includes a political chronology whose entry for 1997 reads: "India celebrates 50 years as a sovereign democracy.

apart, India's fiftieth year is in fact a good moment to reflect on the modern country's history, what it means and why it matters. The reason lies in India's politics, which are the explicit or implicit background to almost all the writing here. After 50 years of steadfast democracy, the deeply transforming effects of the democratic idea have begun to create a world that is rapidly escaping both the imprint of the Raj and the expectations of the nationalist generation that brought India to freedom.

At Independence, Nehru and his fellow nationalists set India the improbable task of trying to achieve simultaneously goals which elsewhere had followed in sequence. They were the development of a self-sufficient industrial economy, the creation of a just social order, and the operation of a stable constitutional democracy, all within a society committed to tolerating its unparalleled differences. As Ian Jack notes in his Granta introduction, whether or not India will succeed in this project "remains the greatest conundrum of its future and ours", not least because of the sheer numbers whose lives depend on the outcome.

These two collections aim to register and even make sense of - the invigorat-

id grin

edited by lan Jack, Granta/Penguin, £7.99 Snakes and Ladders: a view of modern India by Gita Mehta, Secker, £14.99

India. "Here at last is a key to modern India," the blurb to Gita Mehta's book invites us to believe. Granta makes no such rash promise nor, wisely, does it claim a representative brief. It sets out simply to celebrate the huge variety of interests and styles of English writing that Indians have produced or that India has Irresistible opportunities for publishers stimulated in others, and takes in writers who range in age from thirtysomethings

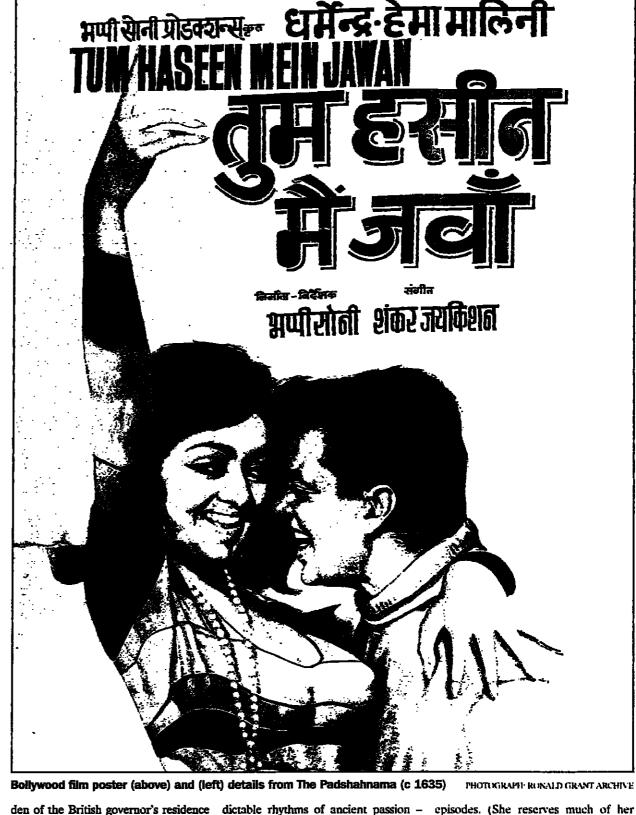


Yet, although both books implicitly claim access to India through the English language, the position of English in India is itself changing. It continues as the language of industry and administration, but has a much more uneasy political and cultural life. English has burst into flower as ing and bewildering commotion that an Indian literary language at the very democratic politics have made of modern moment when it is arguably ceasing

to be a language of power or of feeling There is a great deal to enjoy - and be provoked by - in this Granta issue, even if it does round up many of the usual suspects. The grand old men are here: Nirad Chaudhuri (a stiff party piece on how he perfected his own English, the closest that either book comes to worrying over the matter of language), R K Narayan, V S Naipaul (pages from the diary out of which emerged A Wounded Civilization), Ved Mehta. So too are the old India hands Ian Jack himself, Trevor Fishlock, Philip Knightley, Mark Tully, James Buchan, Jan Morris. And there is a sprinkling of Indian writers in English. Vikram Seth's contribution, a model of self-restraint, is a three-line poem: did Jack exercise an

But there are also some striking and ss familiar women's voices. Urvashi Butalia tackles the most difficult subject for any Indian writer, the experience of Partition - an event without an archive that lives only in family memories. Suketu Mehta has a chilling and humane piece on Bombay in the heyday of the Hindu nationalist Shiv Sena, with some typically gritty photographs of the city's toilers by Sebastião Salgado. There is also an excerpt from the life story of Viramma, an untouchable woman, and the (gloriously overwritten) opening of Arundhati Roy's forthcoming novel.

The India hands sent to scout the changes file some substantial reports, as interesting for what they say about how Britain views its former imperial jewel as about contemporary India. The most piece on Bihar, which excitably sees the disintegration of the state there as a premonition of India's future. What is no doubt intended as a sardonic portrait of Bihar's Chief Minister - in Dahymple's picture, a groin-scratching, lolling parvenu, desecrating the once-neat rose gar- forces. On one hand the dark and unpre-



into a crude farm - veers into outraged caricature. James Buchan has an excellently observed piece on the ruined valley of Kashmir, but he lets himself down Fishlock, who travels in Gujarat on the or Madhuri Dixit's physique. trail of Mahatma Gandhi's elusive spirit, manages a finer poise.

All the pieces resonate with a sense of shock at the speed and scale of the changes that are working through India. There is a wistful twinge, not for the Raj (the sensibilities are too sophisticated for that), but for how India was on these writruffled of these is William Dahymple's ers' first assignments, two decades or less ago. That now appears as "an unreachable era", as lan Jack notes, of anglophilia, austerity, and of Congress

> Several pieces convey the sense of a culture beleaguered by rising and uncivil

caste, religion and community; on the venom for Indira Gandhi, who axed the other, an avidity for the gaudy tinsel of modern commercial life. It would have been nice to dwell also on some of the at the end, when his judgement goes other passions millions of Indians delight slightly AWOL. By contrast, Trevor in: an on-drive by Sachin Tendulkar, say,

This potluck of journalistic clippings fails saleable genre when it comes to India. really thinks about India. When, almost two decades ago, Mehta turned this method to a portrayal of foreigners, the result was Karma Cola, a series of hilariously acid portraits of Westerners stumbling over their backpacks in search of mystic India. Now she turns to her fellow Indians, updates the

political career of her father, once among Nehru's blue-eved boys.)

Mehta has in the past shown herself to be a seductive storyteller. In this book, by her own confession, she is unable to find any story to tell. The effect is a series of If there is something doughty about the false starts, thoughts which neither lead Granta collection, Gita Mehta's contri- anywhere nor crystallise into aperçus. bution to the jubilee festivities is doughy. Her nervy impatience disables reflection or argument; her method relies on alluto rise into a book. It stereotypes her as sion and evocation, but here this accena purveyor of stereotypes, always a tuates her own indecision over what she

There is also a deeper problem of tone. She doesn't want to be flip and she's too cool to gush. She ends up by jettisoning the acid of Karma Cola in favour of her own mystical reconciliation with India - a watery nationalist chic. She would have been better advised to use her talents as a old stereotypes, and intersperses them waspish satirist by making America he with fillers on Indian quirks and political subject. This book was not a good idea. waspish satirist by making America her

Dragon's blood in paradise

Annabel Freyberg voyages to the end of the earth

ike many Englishmen before him, Tim Mackintosh-Smith has fallen in love with a faraway country and been tempted to express his love in print. Untypically, his acquaintance with Yemen, in the heel of Arabia, is not slight or even temporary. His home since 1982 has been a seven-storey mud town-house in Sonaa, the capital, and the depth of his experience shows.

Medieval history, pre-Islamic myth, the gossip of the marketplace, politics and personal experience have all been pressed into a rattlingly funny, learned and readable impression of a place where "the past is not another country", nor merely a few centuries old. Some families can trace their lineage back to Adam; oil is extracted from the same area as the frankincense and myrrh route (ruined by the arrival of Christianity in Rome); and the glorious Marib Dam, whose collapse in the 6th century led to a great dispersal of wealthy farmers throughout Arabia. was only replaced ten years ago by a new \$70 million construction.

Mackintosh-Smith taps into this rich history, in which geography, fable and the present meet. He tells of the myth that the dam was caten away by rats with iron teeth, and of how the King of Marib, warned of the impending disaster by a soothsayer, made his son slap him in public so he could claim he had been insulted, sell the dam and move away. He also gives more prosaic details of the destructive 3.2 million cubic yards of silt washed from the mountains each year, and of how rebuilding the dam symbolised a lost Arab unity.

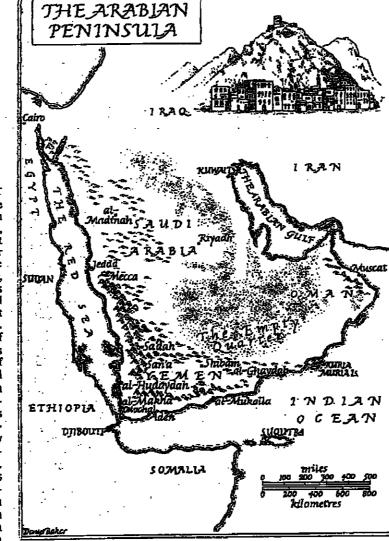
He is susceptible to romance himself, dating his infatuation with the Arab world to a fascination with his grand-mother's fanciful oriental watercolours

Yemen: travels in dictionary land by Tim Mackintosh-Smith, John Murray, £18

and the strange misshapen red globule his father told him was the blood of an Arabian dragon (there are occasional, welcome shades of Bruce Chatwin), but equally entertained by reality. After two years studying Arabic at Oxford, he is unable to ask his way to the lavatory, but tickled by the imaginative possibilites of a phrase such as "Your words reveal the buttocks of your meanings", or that his motorbike is called a "fiery bicycle".

Tim Mackintosh-Smith's choice of Yemen for his university year abroad was governed by the thrilling recreation of Sanna's sug at the Museum of Mankind in London. He chose well. Thanks to a suspicious Imam who resisted the oilmen's advances in the 1940s, Yemen is the only country on the Arabian peninsula not to have succumbed to grossly speeded-up modernity. Not that old customs have turned it into a museum. Since his arrival, Mackintosh-Smith has witnessed war, revolution, the reunification of North and South Yemen (twice) and the arrival of some million Yemenis thrown out of Saudi Arabia when Yemen incautiously sided with

Iraq during the Gulf War. Although he writes well about the vertiginous terraced highlands, his heart lies in the bustle of Sanaa, the city of which the prophet wrote: "There are three carthly paradises. Merv of Khursasan, Damascus of Syria, and Sanaa of Yemen. And Sanaa is the paradise of these paradises." In a far from tranquil century. Sanaa lost half its population from starvation in a siege in 1905, while in 1948 it was sacked by 250,000 tribesmen to avenge the assassination of the oil-shy Imam. His son



Map of the Arabian Peninsula by Denys Baker

never lived in Sanaa again. Here he can indulge in the daily ritual of qat, as much of the population spends the afternoon chewing themselves into a mildly narcotic state. For centuries gat has been accused of corrupting the nation, and the author puts up a bracing defence of its use which almost convinces. Not so his belief that keeping women out of the public domain is probably for their benefit. His final chapter is about a trip to the

"end of the earth", the inaccessible Island of Suqutra, a third of whose exotic flora is unique. There, he reaches an understated full circle when he climbs a weird-looking, fan-vaulted dragon's blood tree, whose resin was once in great demand as a dye for violin varnish - and remembers his father's lump of it. "It is a book" states his introduction, "which, I admit, treads a thin line between seriousness and frivolity". This is exactly what makes it such fun.

Hooray for Bollywood

Maya Jaggi on sex and violence beside the Arabian Sea

Love and Longing in Bombay by Vikram Chandra, Faber, £12.99

n this compelling collection of linked stories, Vikram Chandra has forsaken I the mythological gods of his epic first novel, Red Earth and Pouring Rain, for the more quotidian strivings of Bombay citydwellers. Spanning genres from the ghost story to detective fiction, the five intriguing tales explore grief and loss alongside the

love and longing of the title.
In "Dharma", a general whose missing leg begins to ache confronts a child-ghost not the kite-flying brother he unknowingly pushed to his death, but his own repressed boyhood guilt. In "Artha", a Muslim programmer on the trail of a computer virus loses his gay lover to the gangster underworld, while in "Shanti", a man

mourns his twin, killed in communal riots. As Subramaniyam, the retired civil servant who spins these tales to a fellowdrinker in a Bombay bar, insists: "Some people meet their ghosts, and some don't. But we're all haunted by them." Chandra skilfully layers and textures each story with sub-plots and slippages in time. splicing the present with what the general of "Dharma" sees as "the poisonous seep

of memory". In "Kama", the most resonant tale, a Sikh police inspector uncovering the banal lonely-hearts cravings of a murdered man. along with the sinister Hindu fanaticism of his son, struggles with his own erotic memories and self-disgust at his job - the backhanders, and the violence against suspects that estranged his wife. In a remarkable sex scene with her, which melds physical pleasure with emotional tumult, his fleeting recollection of their first time together vies with the despairing knowledge that this will be their last.

The book is filled with such small epiphanies. In "Shakti", a shopkeeper's daughter turned air hostess, married to an unlikely suitor ("USA-returned and all, but from some place called Utah") achieves a strategic ascent up the affluent slopes of Malabar Hill. She finds her way barred by a cocktail-circuit rival who flaunts a "careless imperfection ... that can't be learnt, only grown with the bone". As her poet son falls for her rival's daughter, she sees with a sense of bitter justice that "getting what you wanted from the world meant that your own struggles became grubby and irrelevant to your children".

Bombay emerges vibrantly as a city haunted by gangsterism and simmering communal violence, and riven with distinctions of religion, ethnicity and class. As the Bombay-born Sikh policeman reflects when he is warned off a case: "There were outsiders and outsiders. Snobberies between old and new money find expression in bilious envy at the perfect crease in another man's trousers. while gay lovers long for a place to meet other than the beach, in a city with the most expensive real estate in the world.

Yet Bombay's tiered exclusions give rise to hope as well as envy. Faced with a silk-clad artist's "expensive Englishmedium arrogance", his rayon-shirted rival feels only "the eternal dazzlement of the outsider"

Attempting a vast range of characters. from the Malabar Hill elite of Dolly Boatwallah and Cyrus Readymoney, to the Bollywood-crazed Frankie Furtado assistant station master but "really a movie star" – Chandra occasionally falters. A sub-plot involving a Malabar Hill cleaning woman fails to come to life. Yet the book's appeal lies partly in its optimism. Despite an undertow of loneliness and mortality, moments of clarity make these short stories journeys towards freedom and peace. The telling and hearing of tales, Chandra insists, can heal and exorcise. As one character says, what is death but "the world stripped of all its fictions".

The titles - "Dharma", "Shakti", "Kama", "Artha", "Shanti" or, loosely, faith, power, love, meaning, peace remain untranslated. Chandra belongs to a confident generation of Indian writers in English who feel little compulsion to gloss. On the evidence of these absorbing stories, that confidence seems more than

Paperbacks



The Secret Life of the Seine by Mort Rosenblum

(Robson, £8.99) Exploring

the great river from source

and Rosenblum has done his research (he lives on a boat

to sca is a wonderful idea

in Paris). As a top foreign

certainly write - so why is this work so annoying?

Distressingly pleased with himself. Rosenblum is a

stranger to restraint. One of the most toe-curling examples is his gleeful

correspondent, he can

account of a fellow

American on his boat

bellowing "Envy me!" to

gogglers on a bateau mouche

hiding in here somewhere.

The Stories of Tobias Wolff

(Bloomsbury, £7.99) Tobias Wolff writes about Vietnam

vets, adulterous academics and second-hand car salesmen. Hacking it out in the backwoods of Oregon

and Northern California,

they experience minor

epiphanies in "Denny's"

restaurants, but then go

home and watch TV anyway.

This collection, which brings

volumes of short stories and

together Wolff's first two

his prize-winning novella, The Barracks Thief, shows

him to be just as good as -

and more likeable than -

fellow minimalists André

Dubus and Richard Ford.

Ann McCracken by Mary

McNeill (Blackstaff Press,

had talent in fistfuls. As a

she devoted herself to

famous Henry Joy

it's sad - there's a good book

By Christopher Hirst and Emma Hagestadt

Life on the Screen by Sherry Turkle (Phoenix, £7.99) To all but the anorak brigade, this in-depth analysis of "identity in the age of the internet" may be somewhat excessive to requirements. It is hard to imagine many readers eager to slog through 350 tight-packed pages about MUDs ("Multi-User Domains!'), such as "Dred's Bar on LambdaMOO", and the sad virtual personalities who inhabit them. Very occasionally, something of interest crops up. Deckard, the hero of Bladerunner, turns out to be a practitioner of a modified version of the Turing Test invented by the mathematician to distinguish machines from humans.

The Hat of Victor Noir by Adrian Mathews (Fourth Estate, £6.99) A black Brazilian called Babalu hides out in Père Lachaise cemetery with his pet mouse. A white Brit called Philip sits at home and stares at his Conran chair. What brings them together? A billet down left at the tomb of Victor Noir, Paris's patron saint of unrequited lovers. Not, as you might expect, the plot of a bizarre French novel, just a first novel in need of some judicious editing. Good on Paris in the springtime; less good on everything else.

The Land Where the Blues The Life and Times of Mary Began by Alan Lomax (Minerva, £8.99) The smell of the Mississippi, "southern £9.99) Sister of the more America in liquid form", is almost palpable in this oral history of the Delta Blues by McCracken (executed for his part in the Irish Rebellion of a legendary musicologist. In 1798), Mary Ann McCracken the segregated Forties. Lomax risked beatings or teenager she set up her own worse from bluesmen both muslin business and organised fashionable harp famous and obscure. recording their stark, competitions. In adulthood haunting music on impossibly bulky equipment. Belfast's poor and the cause This is a book of talk about of women's education. This beautifully old-fashioned hard times, occasionally biography is so admirably segueing into song. But joy keeps bubbling, as in the delightful exchange between written that for a few heady moments you think you've Sonny Boy Williamson and got the complexities of Irish history taped. Big Bill Broonzy.

Audiobooks



istening to Blair Brown's -cool, calm and collected reading of Michael Crichton's latest nailbiting technothriller Airframe (Random House, 4hrs.) £11.99) made a dawn drive from Oxford to Newcastle pass in a flash. The way back was spent equally enjoyably with John Shrapnel's vivid evocation of the eccentric

but intensely attractive characters of Arthur Quiller Couch's True Tilda (Hodder 2hrs, £7.99).

"But where do we get

these tapes?" you write. Any good bookshop now keeps audiobooks and should be able to order for you. The Talking Bookshop at 11 Wigmore Street, London W1, is a mecca for audio converts; Harrods has listening booths. Libraries are a cheap way of hearing the full length ones. Finally the Talking Book Club (0171 731 6262) has a hire service which includes an excellent and constantly updated



Marcel Proust: 'Life's a beach, and then you die'

Search for the hero

eading these books together forces you to believe in opposites. De Botton engages with his subject out of affection. Dyer out of an irritation not quite splendid enough to be called rage. De Botton employs humour and whimsy; Dyer is relentlessly cross and complaining. De DH Lawrence by Geoff Dyer, Botton sees the good, Dyer the bad. When you stop comparing and put them side by side, you get a self-portrait of the modern male writer thrashing about in ambivalence, torn between the need for literary heroes and the need, having built them up, to punch them down.

pin down D H Lawrence, you do suspect that you're dealing with the wounding and resurrection of a figure in Dyer's own fantasy. This, of course, was how Lawrence worked. The landscapes he described were simultaneously accounts of his own soul. Dyer is a disciple following is the footsteps of his cher maitre. Enumerating his blisters is part of his traveller's tale. Alain de Botton gets close to

Proust without being overwhelmed. He dances back a pace or two, between rapture and detachment, knows how to flirt with the old man as well as mock and tease him. His Christina Hardyment | book had me frequently laughing out loud, as well as passionately dis-

Michèle Roberts relishes some fragments of madeleine

How Proust Can Change Your Life by Alain de Botton, Picador, £12.99 Out of Sheer Rage: in the shadow of Little, Brown, £16.99

agreeing with him on occasion, and that's a pleasure to cherish. His work is characterised by lightness of touch and tongue in cheek. In Search of Lost Time, he suggests, can be boiled down to a how-to book: "Far Not all male authors, obviously, from a memoir tracing the passage believe that writing a book involves of a more lyrical age, it was a pracoedipal struggle, the slaying of the tical, universally applicable story apparently omnipotent father, but fol- about how to stop wasting, and lowing Dyer on his tortured quest to begin appreciating one's life." Reading Proust, according to de Botton, can make us feel very much better.

It began, he tells us, with Proust's father, a good bourgeois who was epaté by his son's namby-pamby inability to become a stockbroker, but was himself the bestselling author of 34 volumes, among them Elements of Hygiene, aimed at teenage girls. "Dr Proust proposed regular exercise and included a number of unstrenuous examples jumping off walls... bopping about... swinging one's arm... and balancing on one foot." He advised on the correct posture for sewing and warned

of the dangers of corsets.

Young Marcel confided to his

maid Celeste that he wished he could do as much for his own readers. What he did do, his faithful disciple suggests, is show us how to use our reading to recognise and identify people and types and feelings we've either not enountered before or have forgotten. The pleasure of reading include the pleasures of the outer as well as the inner world. "In How to Take Your Time", de Bot-

son to stand and stare a little more. "How to Suffer Successfully" discusses illness, whether bypochondriacal or terminal, as inspiration. and wittily dissects Proust's relationship with his over-attentive mother as well as his taste in understipation. "How To Be A Good Friend" recommends self-denial and total concentration on the other. For young men brought up to be egotistical, this might be sound counsel but, equally, it reads like a recipe for

ton shows how Proust could dream

up epics from brief press announce-

keeping power by concealing it. Close friendship, based on trust, requires occasional risk-taking and vulnerability. Deluging your friends with bouquets and lunches while acting as their father confessor, which was Proust's practice, won't neces-sarily make them feel intimate with waste his time and yours.

you. They might just take the orchids and foie gras and run. Proust doubted he was loveable and did not want people to know him too well.

It's hard to keep a straight face when de Botton excitedly informs us that Proust discovered that not just palaces but also kitchens could be places of beauty. Er, yes. All these morsels of wisdom are served up as gracefully as fragments of madeleine cooked in tisane, and, like that famous titbit, they provoke a pleasure no less profound for being transient. That, as de Botton knows, is what Proust would have wished.

Where Proust warned against litments or from adverts for soap: a leserary tourism, Geoff Dyer lashes himself into a state of indecision, uncertain whether to write non-fic tion or a novel. He ends up embarking on a kind of literary pilgrimage which constantly threatens to end in tears before bedtime. Shadowing Lawrence, he's written the shadow pants and his predilection for con- of a book, all the bits and pieces normally excised from conventional critical or biographical works. After a while, the self-absorption and selfpity become irritating.

Luckily, in his baggage Dyer also carries a mocking intelligence. When he's discussing Lawrence's letters, say, or his loathing of academics, he's fiery and brisk. But when he's dragging around Italy moaning about awful foreigners, you want to recommend to him that he reads some Proust and discovers how not to be bored and

What's the story?

Guy Mannes-Abbott on a florid fabulist

Wrinkly continent

Christopher Harvie on Euro-pessimism

A Grand Illusion? An essay on Europe by Tony Judt, Penguin, £6.99

and now, what will become of us without barbarians? They were a kind of solution." The Romans, in Cavafy's poem, found barbarians necessary. When ours exited in 1989, much triumphalism was heard, not just from capitalists but liberal theorists such as Raff Dahrendorf, Eight years on, in this elegant essay, Tony Judt is anything but soothing to the hungover tenants of the Gorbachev European Home.

Judt's Europessinism has three main prongs. First, the European Union

evolved not from idealism but to negotiate ways out of national predica-ments. The most important - the division of Germany - no longer applies. Second, Mitteleuropa lacks the wealth and cohesion to be more than a pensioner of the Greater German cuprosperity zone. Third, globalisation and the dismantling of welfare states—demanded, ironically, by the Maastricht criteria—are creating new line for the haves and reverty ism" in favour of the haves, and poverty and instability on Europe's borders, creates the neo-nationalist atmosphere out of which crawl the Le Pens.

Judt's analysis has two lacunae: democracy and technology. The EU has given West Europe more than 20 years in which ethnic authoritarianism -Salazar, Franco, Greek colonels - have been ruled out. This political condom has actually checked the Le Pens while facilitating a benign politics of the environment and of gender equality.

As for technology, its effects are both negative and positive. They include the

vacuous philistinism of the McWorld. But there's a sense that, since Chernobyl, national frontiers no longer constrain. A new environmental consensus could match information technology with flexible civic republicanism, rooted in European structures so far created.

Judt's analysis owes a lot to Alan Milward's The European Rescue of the Nation State (1992), a far from starryeyed view of the Rome Treaty's prehistory. Yet the Europe of 1957 - without computers, mass motor and air transport, the pill, the transistor – was in many ways far closer to that of the Kaiser and Czar.

Modern history broke through the Wall in 1989, and evicted the comforting amnesia in which the German economic miracle - Europe's paradigm - had flourished. But Judt's account, sharply and engagingly written, is still restricted. He imagines Europe in 2010 menaced by a "huge, frustrated, bored, unproductive and ultimately unhealthy population of old people" (meaning ME as a Hell's Grandpa), overlooking the capital and voluntary effort wrinklies can supply to society. And racial punch-ups in places like Prenzlauer Berg in Berlin don't necessarily predicate a Europe-wide confrontation.

Judt predicts a coupling of German inertia with ideological blandness that will lead a dysfunctional continent into a succession of "little local difficulties". There is truth in this, but also in the little local opportunities that co-operative federalism has generated. After almost two decades surveying Britain and Germany, I would still bet on the opportunities - helped along by a slug of Anglo-Saxon rule-breaking. Europessimism is - despite Judt's liveliness - a pathologically gloomy condition. Euroscepticism is Lord Rees-Mogg. Give Euro-opportunism a chance!

Queen of tarts

Joan Smith tracks a Wolf into virgin territory

Verything about Naomi Wolf's new book suggests it is going to be racy stuff. A woman's naked torso stretches langerously from top to bottom of the ower, overprinted with one of those pejorative words, this time Promiscuities, which feminist writers delight in reclaiming. As a title, it promises radical readings, not just a re-interpretation of the longing for multiple sexual experience but a new way of thinking about desire. This impression is reinforced by

the sub-title, with its knowing reference to another Secret Histon - that of Procopius, the Greek historian who chronicled the excesses of the Byzantine emperor Justinian and his wife Theodora Inside, in her introduction. Wolf picks up the theme of transgression, arguing that "our sexual histories are often tapestries attiched around great areas of silence". Women who date acknowledge a sexual "past" are scapegoated, she says, in a

NEW AUTHORS PUBLISH YOUR WORK ALL SUBJECTS CONSIDERED

hor familiari Buggaphy, Redgaphy Purity, Charles a COTTON BOARDINGS WITH CAPTURE TO DESCRIPTION OF MANUSCRIPT TO MENERVA PRESS

Promiscuities: a secret history of female desire by Naomi Wolf, Chatto & Windus, £12.99

process that whips the rest of us the "good" girls - into line.

The answer, she argues, is to recover the "slut" who walks alongside us like a shadow self. She writes that "It will not be safe for us to live comfortably in our skins until we say: you can no longer separate us out from one another. We are all bad girls". The way she chooses to do this is by revealing the sexual histories of herself and some of her friends, women who grew up together in San Francisco in the 1970s.

Intercut with these stories are passages of anthropology and history, intended to demonstrate that the contempt for female sexuality Wolf and her contemporaries discovered is specific to a time and place - the US West Coast at the height of the sexual revolution. These sit oddly together, from an account of Wolf's successful attempt to fight off a lecherous professor to a discussion of attitudes to desire in the Holy Roman Empire, Native American culture or "ancient

Chinese civilisations?. from the charge that it is - like ever said or done.

Wolf's *The Beauty Myth* – a piece of disguised autobiography. So self-obsessed is *Promiscuities* that it seems to exist for the most part without context, its angry rhetoric engaging with female desire as though Wolf is an explorer stepping boldly into virgin territory. She simply does not know, it seems, who or what has gone before.

Yet the book's core question how girls and women can succeed in defining themselves sexually in a culture which stigmatises the free expression of female desire - has been at the heart of feminist debate for the past three decades. This is true both of the private sphere Wolf writes about - female friends, and in the more structured forum of 1970s consciousness-raising groups - and in a wealth of published material.

Women have been grappling with the problem of reclaiming the sexual self in texts as diverse as Anais Nin's diaries, in which she constructed a defiantly sexual persona for public consumption, and the work of Nancy Friday and Shere Hite on female sexuality. The same inquiry is at the heart of Linda Fiorentino's role in John Dahl's film The Last Seduction, the recent lesbian thriller Bound. These sketchy accounts of Susannna Moore's controversial other times, other places, are erotic novel In The Cut and necessary to protect the book almost everything Madonna has



Naomi Wolf: 'we are all bad girls'

PHOTOGRAPH: PHILIP MEECH compelling subject is herself.

This is not to claim that the problem has been solved, or that In that sense, the book reveals there is nothing left to say. What more about the state of American it does mean is that the subject feminism - its preference for perrequires more than Wolf's artless sonalities and its seemingly endsolipsism: this is a volume, after less taste for confessional literaall, which devotes an entire chap- ture - than its ostensible focus. ter to how she chose her wedding What it emphasises, like her eardress. For a book entitled Promis- lier volumes, is that Naomi Wolf cuities. Wolf's account of her has almost everything - passion, own sexual history is rather anger, self confidence - an author pedestrian but it reinforces the needs. What she does not have, impression, gleaned from her as Promiscuities makes painfully two earlier works, that her most clear, is ideas.

pointed towards the Infinite while composing these non-fiction pieces over the past decade. It makes for singularly utopian convictions. In novels like The Famished Road and Dangerous Love, Okri was unashamedly metaphysical and ecstatic in appetites and language. Humanity and its creative potential are at stake here, with Okri arguing that "a sense of beauty, of justice, of the inter-connectedness of all things" can redeem and free us.
Throughout these 12 pieces, he is

A Way of Being Free by Ben Okri,

en Okri has kept at least one eye

Phoenix House, £12

keen to defend his "frontier people of the uncharted and the unknown". He means poets, artists and storytellers, whom he regards as the barometers of an age. He writes that "in a fractured, broken age ... we need mystery and a reawoken sense of wonder." In a sceptical era, we must insist on unconstrained visions of the future.

The vessel for Okri's hope is "story" and one of his sources is the great Nigerian writer Chinua Achebe. Achebe has argued that "the mind and will belong first and foremost to the domain of stories" but he harnessed that creativity to specific ends - the rehabilitation of colonised cultures. Okri, however, writes without bounds about "The Joys of Storytelling" in three

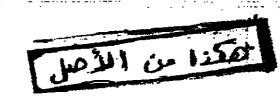
and story are capacious to the point of not to try it.

occasional inanity. It's as if there is one succinct essay awaiting extraction from these pieces. That essay would include two essential joys, the "artistic discov-ery" of telling and the "imaginative identification" of listening. "The first involves exploration and suffering and love. The second involves silence and openness and thought". Giving stories teaches humility; receiving them "deepens our humanity."

Okri exhorts poets to struggle and transgress, to keep flying high in spite of others' shrinking horizons. His penultimate novel Astonishing the Gods embodied this spirit in a language that led us across a "bridge of dreams". In contrast, Dangerous Love conjured an eruptive love amid the psychological tightness of a slum compound. Here, a tribute to Ken Saro-Wiwa ends with Okri arguing that an "eternal human quest for justice" outlives death,

"Fables." he says, "are made of this."
Another of his sources is Walter Benjamin's famous essay on "The Storyteller". Benjamin's artisan storyteller was aiready superseded by the novel, and is fatally threatened by today's dominant forms of communication. This is partly what Okri rails against, but with little of Benjamin's historical grasp or philosophical critique. Combined with a taste for rhapsodic generalisations and wonky aphorisms, such limitations often leave Okri in prematurely sagacious pieces at the core of this collection.

What are the joys of storytelling? Be warned: in Okri's hands, terms like joy over-earnest chef. I would defy anyone



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LINT LONG WEEKEN

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pocket-sized calendar that starts in February and goes on to December. That's not to say that there aren't things going on in January, it's just that we haven't made the deciapplied broad rules to what constitutes a Seasonal event: if entry requires a significant outand related equipment, then schedule includes the Benson of corporate sponsorship now. and Hedges International which allows the events to have

Being posh is easy, says Jane Furnival. But don't worry -

ow's the season to be silly - as long as you are seriously rich enough to afford the prohibitive cost of hatting, hampering and hotelling required for The Season, that extraordinary social phenomenon that sees the rich and braying cavort their expensive way from Henley to Glyndebourne to Chelsea by way of Ascot.

worrying is so middle class

The time it takes automatically excludes seriously working people and the poor. Only nobs (who inherit top hats) and snobs, their satellite hangers-on tolerated for their money, and corporate cashers-in need

apply.
But if you want to hang out with them, where should you be, and what to do? "You go to the Chelsea Flower Show to be seen at the opening gala that's about £200 a ticket," explained one Season ticketholder. "You go to Ascot to show off your clothes, or possibly polo, to see Claudia Schiffer land in a helicopter. It's Glyndebourne to see the politicians (if you want to). You might do Wimbledon for the tennis. And you do Henley to

get drunk." But it's no good thinking that attending the same event sipping champagne in a corporate hospitality tent is your passport to poshness. The slobs and yobs in the marquee dedicated to the promotion of Barbie doll (the Heineken hospitality tent) don't realise that this marks them as rank outsiders in the social stakes. Royal Ascot Village is a few hundred yards from the Royal Enclosure, but

it might as well be in Siberia. To be middle class at a Season event is as pointless as gatecrashing a party where you Season, which exposes the rotdon't know a single guest. The Season can't be shammed. It's self-affirming self-indulgence a class thing, limited and watchdogged by pointless people like ity balls. Why don't the organ-Peter Townend, who makes it isers and ticket-buyers just quihis business to phone up debu-

them to Come Out. If you're not born to a world of wealth and privilege, can you squeeze in? Author Charles Jennings, who calls himself "middle-class suburban man," tried just that last Season and with horror how these girls describes his experiences in his were showered with freebies new book, People Like Us (Little Brown, £16.99).

His first hint for high classiness is to throw worry to the winds. "Middle-class people worry, and think about things like work, tidiness, stopping things falling apart," he expounds. "But posh people just devote their life to having fun." teen. Some had paid for

That is the meaning of the Season. Fun in the sun. You have fun but cloak it in a guise of charity. They keep having these events for charity," observes Charles. Too right. I've even heard posh people describe polo as charity.

Beneath the low-cut ballgowns and gossip-column friv-

travel & outdoors

A taste of Roquefort....10 Brighton the belle......1 1 Awayday to Warwick..13 The buildog breed15 Monks, mountains and mystery16,17



You go to Ascot to show off your clothes, Glyndebourne to see the politicians (if you want to). You might do Wimbledon for the tennis. And you do Henley to get drunk'

PHOTOGRAPH: PHILIP MEECH

Nobbling the nobs

ten roots, the snobbery and of our class system. Take charetly give their time and money tantes' mothers and persuade to the good causes they claim

to fund-raise for? Queen Charlotte's Ball is a classic case. This charity cash bash is the social launch-pad for wealthy debutantes. Sent to report there one year, I saw from dresses to hairdos. Meanwhile, uniformed nurses from Queen Charlotte's Hospital, arriving to help after a day's work, weren't even offered a glass of champagne or a word from the Duchess in patronage. While the nobs chomped smoked salmon, they were furious to be asked to go to the Grosvenor House staff can-

without having enough money and the right accent, concluded . Charles Jennings. Money is vital for fun, though Sloane packing, but my family made its money in the 14th century," one girl was overheard teasing

a friend. "The voice, the drawl that sounds as if you don't give a sod, is your passport," he sses. It can't be faked. Your children can learn it the hard way by going to boarding school at an inhumanly young age. "Your hard-core toffs go to Eton, or maybe Mariborough, Rugby, Winchester. Harrow's a bit 'flash git'." For girls, try Cheltenham Ladies College,

Roedean or St Mary's, Ascot. But if you want to leapfrog socially in a single Season, there are some practical steps you can take to becoming posh and securing a ticket to the members' bars and enclosures. ■ Get a funny surname. Posh people have no sense of their ridiculousness.

"reduced" tickets costing nearly state of society is bad manners. If, after this, you are still Posh people are happy with determined, can you become who they are. If you deviate an advert showing a bulldog's Seasonably posh material? Not from this, they'll spit you out. ugly bottom. Wear expensive Charles quotes one lady saying: "I'm just looking over your shoulder to see if there's somebody more interesting here." Daily Mail.

Another titled lady explained it Take up smoking. Worrying

"Your grandfather made your to me more simply. "I wish family fortune last century in you'd stop asking me things and saying things," she said.

■ If anyone mentions class, take the opportunity to reinforce your upperness. "They perform a verbal dance," says Charles. "They say: 1 know posh people like that but it's not me.' Then they go into an anecdote which reveals their ancestry.'

■Know lots of words meaning 'drunk'. Eskimos have many words describing different kinds of snow, because it's the ruling factor in their lives. The Weish have many words for rain. Posh people have degrees of drunkenness. DD means

dead drunk. Make a mess. The filthiest kitchen I ever saw belongs to posh people who use it to feed five hundred on 'corporate' days in the ancestral castle. The dog slept on the

microwave. ■ Learn tiny talk. Politics or the ■ Talking of dogs, get one that can do no wrong. Even New Labour now pins its hopes on suits covered in dog hair. As Camilla Parker-Bowles was praised for doing in last week's

about health or taking care in any way is middle class. Centuries of in-breeding has given you the constitution of an ox. Marlboro Lights is the preferred posh puff. Cigs are their great social ice-breaker. "Can

> ■Go horsey. Horses epitomise poshness. They're expensive, smelly, good sorts but not too

> ■ Go skiing after the Season ends. Not Verbier, despite (or full of Germans.

■Be a bigot. If you're brainy, keep it under wraps, especially

if female. Make your wit as Upon marrying, move to unpolitically correct as possible. "Go on Johnny, do your Desmond Tutu impersonation. rior design jobs. Buy a place It's frightfully funny."

and family motto. "Our family has been associated with leap-I bum one of yours?" ing stags for centuries." Men never wear wedding rings. If

because of) Fergie. "Ghastly-

■ Be insensitive to sex, with a roistering, eighteenth-century approach. One People Like Us anecdote concerns girls sniffing cocaine from men's private

parts in a socialite club.

Wiltshire. Posh women must give up their catering or intein the country. She'll bring the ■Wear signet rings with a crest kids up until about eight, then off they go to boarding school.

Says Charles: "Left alone with her husband away all day and the kids off her hands. you want to cheat, it's too she'll go quietly mad. Even-obvious that you're married. she'll go quietly mad. Even-tually, husband runs off with his Sloaney secretary and she'll think of ways of restoring her career." Like organising corporate coachloads of yobs and slobs to Henley next

Ascot assets

Royal Enclosure: £50 each. Car park £9 Hamper: £80 for two from Admirable Crichton. Hire of Dalmier (with chauffeur): £545.43 from Helo Cars. Linen tablecloth, candelabras, two table settings: £4,0000 from Thomas Goode. Her: Hat: £500 from Philip Treacy. Chanel suit: £1,8000. Plus shoes (£290) and handbag (£800) Hair: £40 from Hugh and Steven of Ebury St, London. Make-up: £290 Him: Suit: £450. Top hat: £179. Waistcoat: £450 and tie (£50) from Tom Gilbey. Two bottles of Dom Perignon: £120

olity lurks an ugly side to the snobbery still rules, okay, yah? Still a small matter of class

Vou don't have to be unemployed to be affected by seasonal adjustments. According to the Handbook to the Season, which accompanies this month's Tatler magazine, the social whirl now runs from the Grand National on 3 April to the Boxing Day dyspepsia of the King George VI Chase at

Actually, according to Gerri it doesn't stop there. "Really," she says, "it's all year round

Serena Mackesy on the all-year whirl of our society leaders

Prix, the FA Cup Final and the they've got the backing". Nations Cup showjumping.

Showjumping? The dowager duchess will be turning in her grave. Although horsey pursuits have always had an event and opened up the important place in the social Gallagher, the enthusiastic scheme, showjumping was not part of it. The Princess Royal evented. Harvey Smith showjumped. The traditional British squeamishness about Veuve Cliquot print a little money was such that no sport was conscionable for a gentleman if it was possible to make a living from it. We hunt, dar-

ling. We don't follow soccer. Gerri is adamant that this has changed. "I think this is just sion to do a 12-month calendar a reflection of the the real yet". Tatler seem to have push away from this social class thing that everyone's so anxious to achieve in England," she says. "I think it's just lay of dosh on tickets, clothes an excuse for everybody to go out and enjoy all the things that it's in. Thus next month's are on offer, And there's a lot

Open Golf, the Monaco Grand dignity and prestige because though these lambs are no

Certainly, Corporate Sponsorship, Corporate Entertainment and the like have rescued many a doldrum-afflicted prospect of attendance to the successful members of car companies' sales teams, but, let's face it, we may pretend to be breaking down the class system, but in reality we remain a nation of cliques.

have been, two seasons. The one that gets the coverage is the one where milliners' mothers clash elbows in search of photo opportunities. Then there's the real one, which no amount of money can buy you into. Once upon a time you got to be a deb by bobbing

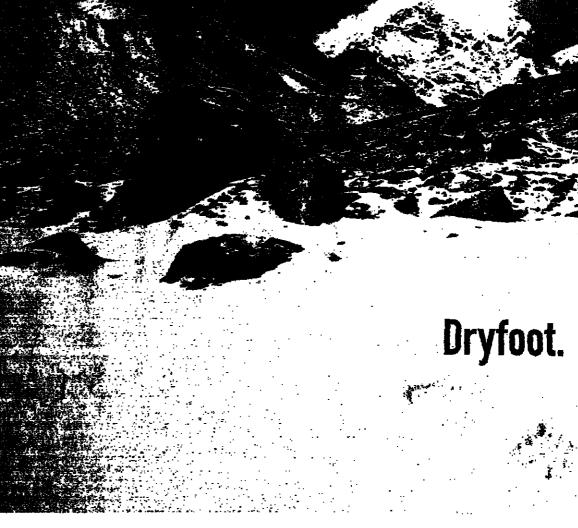
friends. "Virtually no-one marries someone from their season There are, as there always any more," says Social Commentator.

to the queen. Now you tug your forelock to Tatler's Peter Townend, the man who does The List. You can go to every event in the calendar, but you still home a cutie with a regional won't have done a Season.

The numbers involved in the Real Season are tiny - an elevated social commentator estimates that there are only 150 real debs every year - and, longer under pressure to catch a spouse before they're 19, the intent is still deadly serious. There is but one aim in mind: a big black book of suitables. My commentator called it

"networking with other girls". If you network with other girls, you get to meet their brothers, and their brothers'

A tad disingenuous. Most debs do currently go on to higher education and a job on the administrative side of the creative professions. But the bottom line remains; our upper classes may pay lip service to their daughters mixing with a variety of people, and look fondly on their sons' enthusiasm for Chelsea FC, but woe betide the offspring who brings



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BET BUT AND STAY OUT



Step into cheese country: the ancient village of La Couvertoirade

PHOTOGRAPH: MICHAEL BUSSELLE

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In a deeper vein

There's Roquefort in them thar hills. Ray Kershaw gets stuck in

Kanawa sets the mood with Songs of the Auvergne on the cassette. We approach like pilgrims. Just over the brow, round a few more twists in the road, is the shrine of the world's patriarchal blue

With Canteloube still playing, Roquefort is revealed as a single street of workaday buildings clinging like a ledge between the Soulzon river and the 500 feet high cliffs of the Combalou escarpment. Despite its stunning situation we see at a glance it would fail at the first heat of any contest to decide the

Around 1,000 people work here, but apart from a trickle of refrigerated lorries, incongruous in a place so remote, the street is deserted; its forlorn and tiny grocery without a single customer. There is nowhere to get coffee, the one hotel closed for its annual break.

The people, in fact, are all underground: the buildings down the street are like the tips of icebergs - entrances to labyrinths where Roquefort's secret treasure lures. But first we want to take the track on to the acons-battered face of the escarpment: a chaos of boulders and bizarre rock formations, tangled gorse and brambles which create a sense of wilderness where few people ever come. There is a scurrying of wildlife, cuckoos somewhere in the trees, but what we have come up here to find are the crevices and fissures known as fleurines which provide the caves below with the natural ventilation that has made the Roquefort process possible for thousands

From here the village is invisible and the view must be the same as it was when Julius Caesar came with is army conquering Gaul and whose fondness for Roquefort had by the first Christmas made it fashionable in Rome. But the cheese was ancient even then. Far back in mists of time, by one of these caves a young shepherd was opening his packed lunch of bread and cheese when, catching sight of a shepherdess he thought of better things to do.
Rediscovering his cheese a few months later he found it veined with blue. After tentatively tasting it he realised that fate was offering him an opportunity. In the song the whispering of the wind. Then from strange wild landscape, alone by some cave, somewhere far away Madame Ricard's

autonomous producers - from tiny family affairs to the corporate Société which sells its cheeses round the globe and whose subterranean estates stretch the farthest and the

An elaborate troglodytic son et lumière later, Jean-François Mollere, its English speaking guide, leads us through a maze of passages where the damp air is laden with penicillium roquefortii - the native spore of the caves that puts the magic in the rock to the enormous vaulted caverns where thousands of cheeses are evolving in the darkness from anaemic callow orbs into blue-veined Roquefort. Occasionally we glimpse some shadowy figure working - perhaps a maître affineur, a master maturer one of the human big cheeses who in Roquefort have a status only little less than deities. Afterwards there is tasting - an opportunity to buy of course: for Roquefort lover me, the first such I remember being

But Roquefort, like all cheese, begins with the milk, and the syndicat suggested we visit the farm of Madame Alice Ricard high on the uplands of the Causse de Nissac. We arrive a bit early for the six o'clock milking and, strolling up the pasture, she tells about her family's centuries-long roots here, the hard work and isolation, the importance of the grass - chemical free - for the quality of the milk. They own a flock of 400 of the local Lacaune ewes, milking twice a day from early December to 20 July, the date when Roquefort cheese making legally must end. The milking parlour is modern but the way of life

When it rains it rains a lot, but the rock is limestone and porous. Until not so long ago the only water for the animals was that collected in lavognes, dewponds lined with clay where many of the ewes today still prefer to drink:

It is the hour before dusk and the light is at its softest, the grass its richest green, and we wait by the dewpond in that deep rural stillness that endures in France but is only a memory in most parts of Europe - a stillness almost physical, heightened by bird

he steep round hills gleam with fresh rain. The sun has just shone two or three millennia on the business is through and the air is fragrant with going strong.

The scent of wet grass. Kiri Te Kanawa sets the mood with Songs the length of the passages that run below the Auvergne on the cassette. We Combalou. They are divided between the 12 h like pilgrims. Just over the brow.

The sun has just shone two or three millennia on the business is two or three millennia on the business is cooling tremolo like a highland curlew's cry. Then, silent except for the rustling of the length of the passages that run below the cooling tremolo like a highland curlew's cry. Then, silent except for the rustling of the length of the passages that run below the autonomous producers – from tiny family family

With a lump in my throat - perhaps the result of some atavistic memory - I begin to understand the meaning of bucolic, It is one of those rare moments you feel being printed on your soul.

With Roquefort at its centre, the region of the cheese corresponds more or less to the ancient land of the Roucrgue - the empty heart of the southern Massif Central
beautiful but rugged, green meandering
valleys, high rounded hills hollow with
caves, a thousand places to explore where

caves, a thousand places to explore where
few tourists ever go.

For a flavour of it all take any of the pararow roads to La Couvertoirade on the
Causse de Larzac – a turreted and walled
Knights Templar village like a Disneyland
but so small that you could walk round its
walls in 10 minutes or less. It looks like a
scene from a book of fairy tales, its Sleeping Beauty aura of time standing still partly
the result of its having been for many years the result of its having been for many years depopulated. It has now been given the kiss of life by the proliferating craftsmen busy moving in.

Its car park is getting bigger. One day in may be as insufferable as Carcassonne, but today as we approach across the undulat-ing plateau, see its turrets emerging from a veil of morning mist, it is hard not to stop and rub our eyes twice, as if Merlin had just conjured it from some Arthurian dream. Outside the walls is the communal lavogue reminding us that here too we are still within the rayon, the legal compass of Roquefort.

With so sparse a population, restaurants and hotels are thin on the ground. The best bet is St Affrique, a little valley town eight miles or so from Roquefort. At the Hotel Moderne, Jean-François Decuq reels off from his menu a prodigious list of dishes in which he utilises Roquefort. From starter to desert you can fit in four.

But then comes the finale - the platter of 12 Roqueforts - one from every maker, each wonderful but different, fresh from up the road. Where else in the world would such a thing be possible? Already full to bursting point, you sigh and let your belt out, order

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festival runs only from 3 to 25 May, Britain's first resort seems to bear Down the gentle slope to the sea, a permanently glazed grin - as though a municipal-sized, mood- Brighton unfolds and the tang of enhancing narcotic has been salt air strengthens. And starting washed down with a reassuring this spring visitors can now tour the pint or two of Fremlin's Ale.

Mind-altering drugs excepted, the quick way to cheer yourself up entire railway network converges Edinburgh they arrive, from Behind the mask of a humdrum Brighton has adapted to change. A Intimacy is Brighton's strong The twirling domes and piercing stripping – 143 wagons carried the Brighton Tourism (0345 573512): Cardiff, and from London in less provincial town, with the requisite maze of alleyways that once housed suit. In 1783, the Prince of Wales minarets of the Royal Pavilion give booty to Kensington Palace – the Brighton Festival (01273 292961).

fortnight from now, the than 50 minutes. An assortment of fun officially starts in rolling stock reaches the South Brighton. But don't be Coast in a flurry of Victorian ironconfined by the calen- work Brighton station, ludicrously dar. Though the town's grand for a town of 150,000, imbues the visitor with a sense of style. the arrogance intensifies as tragi-comic stump of the West Pier

(above). The town's pulse is racing. people who have never been there

Brighton is decadent, elegant and spotted the potential for decadence beyond earshot of London's could explain why such a jolly col-undignified municipal roles interendless fun, writes Simon Calder gossip-mongers. At first the future George IV rented a modest farm- washed up here. Or it may be the lin-

The Gap and McDonald's, lies the overrun by twee shops and theme creased but much more engaging visage of a resort indulged by royalty, a Bohemian refuge on the Sussex coast. And within that, the weatherworn wrinkles of a fishing A certain civic exuberance is village which fell on hard times, and men's cottages moulded into a naris to catch a train to Brighton. The justified. To explain Brighton to is now hermetically sealed by row restaurant. The walls are heavy encroaching urbanisation.

retailing square footage of Boots, a fishing community has been largely cafés, but at least the sense of cottages in a conspiratorial huddle has survived. One restaurant where the ambience has not been imported is English's Oyster Bar, three fisherwith ancient scarlet velvet, the inte-

house, but once elevated to Prince Regent he was able to create a monumental folly embracing an architectural compendium from imitation Islam via ersatz Egyptian to counterfeit Chinese. John Nash imported to Sussex ideas from all over Asia to create an elaborate Oriental palace adjacent to the ous affairs of the high and mighty. coaching road from London (now the A23). One moment you are steering south towards the sea - the

The new Queen found Brighton here, with expresses from almost is like trying to explain the joys of Pause here, in the Lanes, to rior so cramped that diners are next you are confronted with less amusing than her uncle had every part of the kingdom. From cricket, or Coleridge, to a philistine. admire the way the medieval core of obliged to snuggle up side by side. Britain's riposte to the Taj Mahal. done. After a bout of regal asset-Pause here, in the Lanes, to rior so cramped that diners are next you are confronted with less amusing than her uncle had the emerging audience.

Regent began the tradition of taking

scandal to Sussex, but he was fol-

lowed south by a procession of other

miscreants; 19th-century cartoons

hanging in the gallery of the Royal

Pavilion show that sleaze is nothing

new, and hint at the many adulter-

undignified municipal roles interspersed with patches of dereliction.

Now, though the royal fun palace gering scent of sin. The Prince has been resuscitated to its former arrogance. In the grounds, the former royal stables comprise the venue for the Brighton Festival's main events - two weeks from tonight, Sir Simon Rattle opens proceedings in the auditorium whose bald name conceals a grand arena: the Dome. If one or two of the sub-The fun temporarily abated sequent performances are duff, no when Victoria was crowned in 1837. matter: the impetuous Royal Pavilion, garishly illuminated, will cheer

Ghosts of Laughterland

The piers offer a view of Vintage Victoriana, writes Nicola Veash

here was a time, before cheap for-eign holidays overwhelmed the holidaying public, when the British coast was in its prime. The promenades were bustling the hotels were full of town folk eager for sea air, and top performers enter-tained holidaymakers at the end

of the pier. The belle of the south coast was Brighton, with the Royal Pavilion, imposing town houses, and two piers. Like so many seasides it has suffered an ignominious decline, made more visible by the wreck of the West Pier which has scarred the seascape for more

than 20 years. In 1974, Brighton Council made moves to demolish what is the only Grade I listed pier in the country. Outraged residents marched along the seafront to save their beloved, imposing structure. But just a year later it was closed to the public for safety reasons, and the elegant Victorian coastal

engineering was left to go to ruin. The squatters moved in then the pigeons took hold and the fantastic, mock-grand building, designed by Eugenius Birch, fell into a miserable spiral of decline. Yet today, even in its present state of decay, its beautiful architecture is still rccognisable.

Throughout May, the West Pier Trust, prisingly good condition. On the woodena charity aiming to restore the pier to its slatted floor lie white iron sea-serpents, traditional use, will be running



with the Brighton Festival. The hard-har journey shows the all-but-vanished customs of Britain's once bacyant seaside life. A rustcoloured temporary bridge has been tacked around the pier for the tour par-

original decorative ironwork and is in sur- reasons (01273 709709).

once wrapped around gaslights on the pier's promenade, waiting to be returned to their former glory.

But when you step inside the threestorey second pavilion, a sense of ecri-ness takes hold. Plaster peels from the walls and a painted clown, dusty and decaying, invites you to step inside "Laughterland".

The theatre upstairs once played bost to Shakespearean drama and old-time music hall. To this day, the pink and ivory tickets of its last production litter the floor; you feel like a ghost visiting deserted haunts. The downstairs kitchens, with pots and pans rusted into old-fashioned catering stoves, have lain undisturbed for a quarter of a century.

The tours provide a rare oppor-

tunity to witness the allure of Britain's decaying seaside. And if you stay until the sun sets over the blackened structure, you may be lucky enough to see thousands of starlings swarming dome-like over the pier, in breathtaking contrast to the red skyline and the deserted wreck of the

Pier tours run daily at 11am and 3pm, £15; The pavilion nearest the shore boasts not suitable for children under 16, for safety

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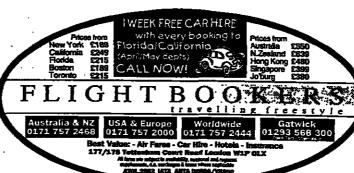
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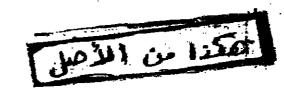
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A day of knights to remember

Days out: The Magee family took a colourful trip into history at Warwick Castle. By Catherine Stebbings

arwick Castle punches the sky above the River Avon in celebration of its victory over time and death duties. It is Britain's finest and most complete medieval castle and, since it became part of the Tussaud's Group, the best presented. The castle's dramatic position promises much. As you look out from the battlements, it is clear that the surrounding gardens and "Capability" Brown's landscaped park will not disappoint. Within, the money of corporate leisure and an engaging and unstuffy approach to history combine to exceed expectations.

The castle is divided into periods reflecting its development, and each part uses a different style to bring social, cultural, political and economic history to life. From the impressive armoury and chilling torture chamber you can join Warwick the Kingmaker's armourers as they prepare for battle in 1471; the atmosphere reeks of urgency and horse in a spectacular display in which waxworks and special effects vividly portray the Middle Ages. The Tudor and Jacobean period is presented in the sturdy Ghost Tower which reopened, refurbished, in March.

By contrast, the elegant staterooms reflect the opulent taste of the 17th and 18th centuries: rooms are lined with polished cedar panclling. Bruges tapestries and elegant furniture.

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Eventually you can swan elegantly into the company of Edward VII, then still an impatient and incorrigible Prince of Wales, and a bookish 23-year-old by the name of Winston Churchill. These unlikely companions, and a Who's Who of other late-Victorian political power, are trapped in a house party held

The visitors Ceci Magee took her children, Julia, 10, and Freddie, eight.

Ceci: The variety was brilliant. It was such a bonus that both the children enjoyed themselves equally. It was baving a chance to experience life through the centuries that really appealed to them. Freddie enjoyed the medieval part and Julia the Victorian era. It was an educational day.

Everything was well laid out and quite subtly presented - there was nothing tacky about it. Even in high summer the place would still feel like an historic castle. Although there was no jousting or special event happening, there was more than enough to do and we benefited from seeing it on a day when there weren't too many people there. I enjoyed the Kingmaker very much: a good mix of evocative smells, subtle music, historical snippets

and the eerily brilliant waxworks. As there was little labelling we really needed our guidebook, which was lavishly produced and good value. Although we talked to the staff, we would definitely have missed out without it.

The admission charge was high but you could easily spend the day here, picnic in the park, and know that the whole family would be entertained. No one could be bored here. That said, I think small children might be frightened by the dark, and strange noises in the Kingmaker and spiral staircases. It's also not very accessible to bug-

a helmet which was really heavy. I tried to pick up a sword but the lady said we could only use one hand and it was too difficult. There was you'd have to wear a corset. a horse wearing armour with a

knight on top and lots of swords, crossbows and arrows. The torture chamber was very scary. I wouldn't like to have been the men they did those horrible things to. I really liked the Kingmaker

apart from the horrid smell of candles and horses down there. We saw everyone getting ready for battle: making armour, a blacksmith making horseshoes, a man making a cartwheel and a man putting arrows together using goose feathers. There was also a horse, a cat that moved its tail and a dog sniffing down the loo. I wouldn't have liked to have lived in a medieval castle because it would have been dark, smelly and cold.

I climbed up a tower on to the ramparts but my legs felt a bit wobbly because they were very windy steps. From the Mound we could see the peacock garden, the river and the park.

In the staterooms there was a huge cauldron where everyone would have eaten from. What they got was "pot luck", and that is where the saying comes from.

Julia: I don't always enjoy history at school, but I thought Warwick Castle was a very interesting place. I really enjoyed the Weekend Party. It gave me a good idea of what it was like in those times - the clothes you would wear, the furniture, the rooms, etc. In one room the ladies were singing around the piano, then in the library the men were reading books and newspapers. Upstairs, the maid was running the bath, the Duchess of Marlborough was getting ready, the Dowager was having Freddie: In the armoury I tried on her hair done. I would like to have spent a weekend here as a Victorian. It looked very comfortable, and the clothes were nice but a bit tight;

The nice staff in the Weekend

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Party and in the Kingmaker all wore clothes from the period. I

tried on a hat in the Kingmaker and the lady told me about it. She said ladies used to wear tall hats because they were fashionable but they kept falling off because medieval doors were so low, so they tied the veil round their chins to keep it on. Hats got taller and taller. Then the king said enough was enough, and ladies wore sort of wreaths without the top bit, but they kept the veils.

Warwick Castle (01926 406600) is 2 miles from junction 15 of the M40 and well signposted.

Warwick: money of corporate leisure and an unstuffy approach to history combine to exceed expectations

Access: limited free parking in castle car park, 10 minutes' walk away. Spaces for the disabled at the stables and a pedestrian entrance for those using the town car parks. Access around the castle and grounds is on foot. There is limited disabled access and baby buggies are allowed only in certain areas. 01926 406600).

Rampart walk is not suitable for the very young or elderly. Open daily, 10am-6pm (5pm Nov-

March) Closed Christmas Day. Admission: adults £8.75, children 4-6 £5,25, family £24, OAP £6,25. Special events: 15-23 Feb. Battles and Duels; 28 March-1 April, Easter Siege; May Day Festival; 24-26 May, Jousting. Entertainment every weekend in June and every day in July and August (details,

Good paths but some steep climbs. Food: The small Stables café serves snacks and drinks. Best for children is the Stables Hayloft restaurant which serves a good lunch, teas and coffee. Baked potato and sausage £3.25, sandwiches £1. 95, dish of the day £5.25. The Undercroft restaurant in the castle is more formal but similarly priced. Picnic areas, ice-cream and drink stalls in

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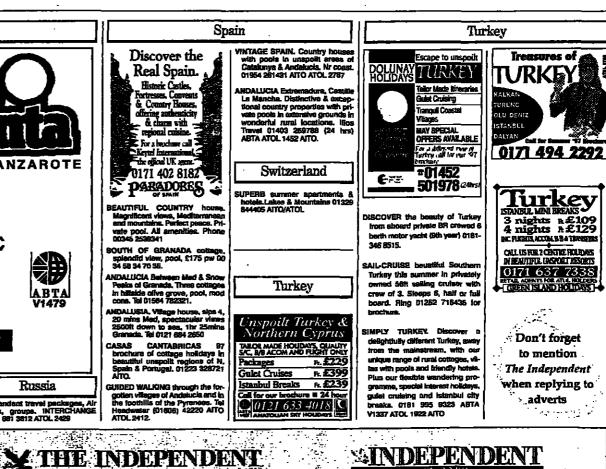
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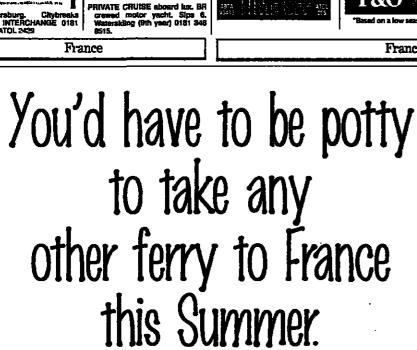
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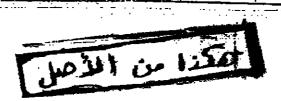
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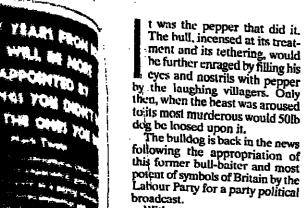






THE INDEPENDENT LONG WEEKEND . SATURDAY 19 APRIL 1997

مكدا من الأصل



The bulldog is back in the news following the appropriation of this former bull-batter and most potent of symbols of Britain by the Labour Party for Latiour Party for a party political

With an ancestry that can be traced variously back to Roman legionnaires arriving in 55BC with their fighting dogs and to the Molussus fighting dog named after the ancient Greek Molossi tribe, what is certain is that they were surly and unsociable but pos-

sessed indomitable courage.
With a dash of mastiff blood to increase its ferocity, for centuries the bulldog was carefully bred to acquire and perfect all the physical attributes that the barbaric "sport" of bull-baiting required. The underhang of the lower jaw enabled it to cling to the bull's muzzle with such tenacity that even the most insane bull found him impossible to shake off. The light, flexible hindquarters permitted the dog to survive as the bull attempted to break its back. The prorruding lower jaw and short muzzles let it breathe as it seized the bull's nose and the deep furrows around the eves allowed he bull's blood to run off the face. .oose skin on the body protected is internal organs.

Endorsement for the breed came from the poet Lord Byron vho described his own bulldog. loatswain, as possessing "Beauty without Vanity, Strength without In turn it inspired the name of Bull-ferocity, and all the Virtues of dog Drummond, the hero of the nan without his Vices".

Then, in 1835, the "sport" of Then, in 1835, the "sport" of them Bulldog Drummond, a for-bill-baiting was made illegal and mer army officer and amateur the bulldog faced extinction. Cedit for saving the bulldog must gt to a Bill George, who contin-ucl to breed them. In 1875 the firt specialist club devoted to the bred was established: the Bulldog Clib Incorporated.

tuch was the reputation of the tion as a bold and tenacious anistorky, courageous dog that his mal grew those characteristics nane and mythical temperament cane to immortalise the spirit of the people of Great Britain: The Bullog Breed. The phrase comes its ancestor and its image in both and heart action. Leslie Thorpe, trotted out at every opportunity.



A softie, and no bull

Labour's choice wins a pat from Anthony Thornton

and Edwardian Britain called "Sons of the Sea, All British Born". adventure novels of Sapper. In detective, righted wrongs with resourcefulness and fortitude.

Churchill, in a remark that confirmed the ancient notion that pets look like their owners, declared

the buildog his favourite pet. Yet ironically, while its reputawere slipping away through generations of selective breeding. The buildog came to differ from

eyes and protruding lower jaw, to the uninitiated, the bulldog appears to be both ferocious and volatile. In reality, however, it is a docile, good-natured and homeloving animal fond of children. And hopeless as a watchdog.

Bulls may sleep easier at night, but there has been complaints that breeding is making the bulldog suffer. The size of its head means that puppies frequently have to be born by Caesarean section. There has been a marked increase in bitches successfully self-whelping but the dog still has a notoriously short life-span. Some say it has been bred to an abnormal size that

from a music hall song by Arthur appearance and disposition. With Reece popular in late Victorian its deeply furrowed face, wide-set Club, disagrees. "Tve bred bull- There is a dark side to the bulldogs for 45 years and their heart problems and breathing problems are no worse than any other breed as long as they get exercise and eat healthily," he says.

Is he happy with Labour's appropriation of the bulldog as its election symbol, an idea used by the Conservatives in 1987? "Well. it's always been a symbol of the Conservatives and, put it this, way I wouldn't let them use any of my bulldogs.'

Susan Jay, secretary of the London Bulldog Society, is more equivocal about the use of Fitz the bulldog in politics. "It's part of the burden of being a bulldog, I often interferes with breathing suppose," she says. "It always gets become increasingly over-anxious

There is a dark side to the bulldog spirit, which should worry those who see a real bulldog breaking its leash as shown on the Labour broadcast. Some unscrupulous breeders are attracted to the possibility of breeding the bulldog with a view

to re-activating the ferocious tem-

perament dormant in its genes for

more than a century.

However docile the beast there is an important lesson to be learnt from bulldogs, which Tony Blair may find relevant in his future struggles with old Labour should he lead the next government: as they become older crankiness and irritability are common. They



All power to the National Spring-Clean campaign, which started vesterday - the seventh annual offensive launched by the Tidy Britain Group. Last year's 10-day blitz, in which 2.6 million people took part, brought in 10,400 tons of litter; this time the organisers are hell-bent on exceeding that total.

The clean-up engenders tremendous enthusiasm: teams from schools, local authorities, companies and other sources compete, and all ranks not only enjoy themselves but gain the impression they are doing good.

So they are. Yet surely there is something wrong in the fact that the drive against rubbish can produce such a colossal harvest. The total of 10,000 tons represents a phenomenal number of individual items, most of them very light: how many million sweet-wrappers, tissues, aluminium drink-cans, plastic bottles and burger boxes?

No doubt the litter problem is worst in towns. But casually rejected garbage is even more offensive in the countryside, which should be a green environment.

Are we a nation of sluts? I often think so when I ride around our lanes on a bicycle, whose modest pace gives an all-too-detailed view of the immediate surroundings. There appear to be two kinds of litter vandal: those who deliberately drive out to fly-tip large objects cookers, refrigerators, TV sets, mattresses - and those who casually throw things out of car windows.

I hate both classes: the first because they are too idle and/or stupid to go to the council tip - an admirably-run establishment that accepts any domestic reject and directs it towards recycling; and the second because they have no thought as to the problems their slovenly behaviour may create.

How many motorists realise that bottles are killers? In a recent survey a naturalist found 77 mammals trapped in bottles around a single lay-by on the A5. Another survey discovered 2,000 mice, voles

The drive against rubbish produces a colossal harvest - a total of 10,000 tons

and shrews - many dead from hunger and thirst - in 900 bottles thrown into hedges and bushes. Plastic bags can be just as deadly if eaten by sheep or deer.

Living on a lane that runs nowhere. I conduct periodic purges of my own. The most recent yielded 24 alien objects, including seven bottles: three glass, four plastic.
Local people would never throw
out such junk – and nor, I believe,
would walkers. It must all have come from passing curs.

I believe there is something about cars that undermines normal standards of behaviour. People would not dream of dumping rubbish on their own territory. Yet once in a car, they are in a separate little world. They do not seem to appreciate that every wood, field and hedge belongs to somebody, just as their gardens belong to them. The apparent lack of any owner acts as a licence to jettison.

The question is: how to change habits? Leaving or depositing litter is already a criminal offence subject to a maximum fine of £2,500 - but it is difficult to catch defaulters in the act. The long-term answer is surely better education, both at school and at home. As Ginette Williamson, co-ordinator of the national cleanup campaign, remarks. litter should be on people's minds not for 10 days a year, but for 365.

My only criticism of her splendid effort is that it comes a week too late. Already the wild garlic, grass, nettles and other plants along our lane arc high enough to hide unpleasant secrets.

Walking out the other evening. I picked up some chips of rock which had fallen into the road and tossed them on to the bank. Clink! Glass. A freshly-landed bottle? No - a one-pint beer glass, not cracked or chipped, perfectly usable. God knows who threw it there, or why but I'll bet my boots it came from a pub and sailed out of a car window.

If you wish to join the clean-up, the hot line number is 0990 885577.

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NO. 3 am nor me gent to me of a special Hours Certificate brider Section 77 of the Licensing Act 1964 in sepect of those permises situate at 17/19 Whitworth Street West, Manchester adsressed and lineous as Canal Cade Bar.

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etting to heaven is literally an uphill task. Or so it seems in the Himalayan state of Sikkim, where monasteries are perched sublimely at the top of tall, forested hills. Spiritually, there's a quick way of finding out how you're doing in the heavenward stakes once you've huffed your way up to Tashiding gompa (monastery). This is one of the most sacred Buddhist monasteries in the small, screne-looking country whose recent history has seen it swallowed up as part of north-east India. Here, you simply follow the groups of monks and ladies devoutly spinning their prayer wheels as they perambulate the monastery and its outlying walls. Then you reach a well-marked point. You stand on one side of the path, close your eyes and put your index finger out. The trick is to walk across the path, still with your eyes closed, and place your finger in a significant hole in the wall. If you hit the spot you're well on the way to heaven. I tried, three times, but at each attempt ended up at a lower indentation. A sort of lesser purgatory perhaps? "It's just a bit of fun." laughed one of the monks who had gathered to watch these familiar anties. "Better luck next time."

At any rate, when you're at Tashiding you feel you're a good half-way to heaven. There you are near the foothills - itching with orchids - of the world's third-largest mountain, Kanchenjunga, amidst avenues of fluttering prayer flags. Butterflies flit past the neatly whitewashed stupas while

sociable dogs amble lazily by your side.

On my visit, cheerful, maroon-robed monks emerged blinking into the bright sunshine having taken a break from their chanting and horn blowing in the richly pointed main hall. They had gathered to prove the below in the richly pointed main hall. cred to pray for the Dalai Lama's trip to Taiwan at the end of last month. Although they follow a different sect of the Tibetan branch of Buddhism, the monks were deeply concerned about the political, as well as spiritual ramifications of the Dalai Lama's journey. But that didn't cloud the courtesy and sense of fun there. We were offered mugs of Tibetan-style tea, a salty concoction served with splodges of butter, and as we sipped our way through the oleaginous brew, a deaf-and-dumb monastery helper mimed, with evident amusement, his own efforts over the hole in the wall. He had been more successful than me.

ful gompas, getting a glimpse into a surviving enclave of Tibetan Buddhist culture; to admire the spectacular scenery of snowcapped mountains, from Gangtok, you pass truckloads of khaki trailing waterfalls, fantastical ferns, flowers and more; and to go trekking through the unspoilt. As the area is only about 35km from the Tibetan peaks and valleys around Kangchenjunga. They

Come for

a walk

in the 12th

century.



High society: a Sikkim pilgrim follows the avenues of fluttering prayer flags in the shadow of the world's third largest mountain

Halfway to heaven

and hassle of neighbouring West Bengal.

Of course you know you're on your way to a dis-tinctly different region from the red tape involved in reaching Sikkim. The Indian government has designated this a restricted area, and tourists need a permit to get there (see below). Paperwork in order, your starting point is Siliguri. This is the main trading point in Bengal for traffic from Darjeeling, Sikkim and the kingdom of Bhutan. From here you board a bus or hire a taxi-van and gradually twist your way up into the clean greenery of the mountains. Gangtok, the Sikkimese pital, is about three and a half bours away.

The sharp twists of the mountain road are painted with signs in English encouraging safe driving - "Be gentle with the curve" and so forth. Towards Gangtok the signwriters had got carried away with their own moral rectitude: "If you judge people you won't have time to love them" was emblazoned on a particularly perilous hairpin bend. "Imagination is better than wisdom" said another, as if challenging drivers not to get distracted by pondering quite what this means.

The mottos are painted by a branch of the Indian army whose job it is to make and maintain the roads. And there is a great deal of military activity here: Sikkim is a sensitive area, you are informed, because

Indeed, travelling north to Yumthang, a particularly high and beautiful valley about a day's drive frontier, visitors need (another) special permit to find themselves in a land of easy-going good humour, a place with infinite nuances of delicacy spent the night at the nearby village of Lachung

and politeness. It is a world away from the hustle and got up at dawn the next day to catch the mounand hassle of neighbouring West Bengal. early-morning light. As we drove up to the valley through a trio of army checkpoints, a Sikh contingent was out on exercise, doing press-ups by the side of the road - turbans neatly in place, moustaches immaculately twiddled and not a hair out of place, despite their exertions. I couldn't help wondering if the corresponding Chinese border guards were

as wonderfully well groomed - and numerous. A Chinese threat is certainly a reason for Indian government sensitivity over Sikkim, but by no means the only one. "In 1959 the Chinese invaded Tibet," I was told at one monastery. "And in 1975

international criticism at the time. For centuries.

Sikkim had been a proud, independent kingdom

And in 1975, amid democracy demonstrations in and its chogyal, or ruler, embodied a leadership that was intertwined with the spiritual history of the nation. The Indians took over in the name of democracy that en route was translated into union with themselves.

Their recent political involvement started in

1947 when, on independence, they inherited British treaties with Sikkim – largely over border control. Although during the 1962 Sino-Indian border wars the Chinese respected the frontiers of the Himalayan kingdoms of Nepal, Sikkim and Bhutan, the Indians were left deeply suspicious. By the early Seventies the government of Indira

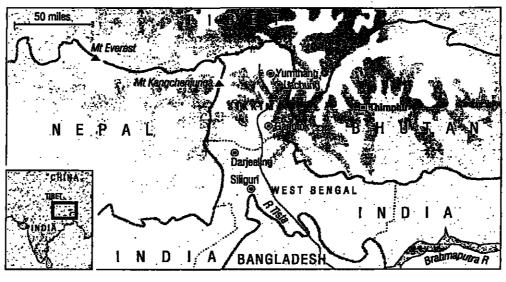
Gangtok, the Gandhi government imposed a pferendum with the result that Sikkim was anneed as the 22nd state of India. The army surrouned the *chogyal*'s palace, stripped him of his powers and placed him under house arrest for two years.

Accusations flew that the Indian government

had simply imported the demonstrators from Bengal, had considerably swelled the population with a flood of foreign workers (who had Ittle regard for the independence of Sikkim), anchud in any case rigged the elections.

Mass immigration had, in fact, been started last century by the British, who introduced a large wave of Nepalese labourers. The Indians continued the practice and the number of incomers confined to rise, dramatically so after 1975. Today the Sikkimese amount to less than one-quarter of the population of their own country. And havenly though the Sikkimese monasteries are, Budhism, too, is in the minority – about 60 per centof the population are Hindu.

Yet for the Sikkimese, the outlook is not intirely bleak. If their culture is to survive, so must their religion and their monasteries. And to this end the current chogval, who inherited his father's Itle (but not his former political power) has set il train a tices. Meantime the Sikkimese themselve keep an interested watch on matters in neighbouring Bhutan, which has recently seen a similar Idal wave of incoming immigrants. "The Bhutarese have been very frightened by what happened to us," I was told in Gangtok. "In terms of demographics?" I wanted to know. "Not just that. Ultimately, there's always the possibility of another accover."



Getting there

British visitors need visas for India: these cost £13 (for three months) from the Visa Section, Indian High Commission, India House, Aldwych, London WC2B 4NA (0891 880880 for recorded information). Permits for Sikkim (15 days) are reasonably easy to obtain, at no extra charge, from the Indian High Commission in London or, in India, from the permit office in Siliguri.

Sikkim and Bhutan fact file

Flights: Harriet O'Brien paid £408 (including tax) for a flight from Heathrow to Delhi with Lufthansa, booked through Trailfinders (0171-938 3366). Internal flights to Bagdogra on Indian Airlines or Jet Airways cost around £70 extra each way. There's also a train to Siliguri but you need plenty of time for

Getting around Travel within Sikkim is fairly restricted. Visitors are permitted to travel west as far as Pelling (visiting the monasteries of Tashiding and Pemayanguse en route). For journeys further west and to the north you may only travel in groups of four foreigners and you need a special permit. Travel agents in Gangtok are

helpful and numerous - and will look after the paperwork as well as teaming tourists and arranging transport and accommodation. Accommodation

Guest houses, offering "fooding and lodging", are generally clean and comfortable. Harriet O'Brien paid 500 rupees (£8.70) a night at the Anola Hotel on MG Marg in Gangtok (03592 23238), and at the Norbu Gang in Pelling, west Sikkim (03593 50566, similar prices). Bring a hot rater bottle; most places are unheated and get very cold.

When to go April and May are prine months to see the Himalayan lowers in their full glory - entire hillsides covered with wild rhollodendron blooms. The tourist season ends at the start of June (when the monsoon begins) and resumes in October. December o February it gets jolly chilly at right.

something to declare



Prague£149

rom the beachballs of Holiday to the hip sunglasses of Rough Guide, holiday programmes have to drag you by the scruff of the neck away from the joyless rainy suburbs and deposit you in exotic loca-tions worldwide. MTV World Tour takes the innovative approach of depositing the viewer on an entirely

new planet: MTV world. MTV world is a homogenised world of jump-cuts, (not so)

A likely story "Let Kula Shaker, INXS, Boyzone and more show you around the world" - MTV press release Steadicam and a spaghetti of different film stocks. Dizzying and dazzling and roughly about nothing, it's

an experience which can only be described as "intense". In the main section, presenter Dan Roland explores the complex world of Cuba, where the last bastion of communism rubs suntan lotion into the shoulders of exploitative tourism. Dan comes to the conclusion that

The programme travels to India to share the insights into Delhi of the lead singer of Kula Shaker, Crispian Mills. "Welcome to smelly Delhi," he says. Crispian concludes that Delhi is

In Israel, the model looks of Christof, a German backpacker, are given the full black-and-white treatment as the film crew follow him on his "Fab Fortnight". Christof climbs trees and does some work with fish

and chicken on a Kibbutz and gets drunk a lot. By the way. Christof reckons Jerusalem is "Intense". The MTV World Tour accomplishes in half an hour what the UN has spent fifty years fumbling towards: it levels out all cultures. MTV World Tour will be broad-

cast every Saturday, Sunday and Monday for the next five weeks **Anthony Thornton**

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Trouble spots

this is a bad thing.

While air travellers from Britain are penalised by Air Passenger Duty (set to double in November), some Central European countries have identified visiting motorists as a potential source of funds. These are some examples of the fees that drivers are liable to

Austria: "Holidaymakers may purchase either weekly or two-monthly discs. The cost of the weekly disc is ATS 70 (about £3.60). The two-monthly disc, which is valid for two consecutive calendar months, will cost ATS 150 (about £7.70)." - Austrian National Tourist Office (0171-629 0461).

Czech Republic: "A motorway toll coupon of Kcs 400 (approx £10) per

Bargain of the week car and per calendar year is Catch the first flight out of payable at the Czech border

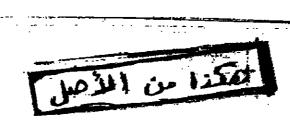
London City airport, and you can travel to any Air UK destination for £59 return (plus tax), with no restrictions on the homebound flight. The reason for this extra-

ordinary offer is that the airline's schedules are designed for business travellers coming to the City of London - the inbound flights arrive well before 9am. But

fare well below average, and also by waiving the normal Saturday night stay at th destination. The deal will suit busiless travellers to Holland or

Scotland who don't mind arriving at their destination in mid-morning, as long as hey that means the return leg has save a fortune by doing

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Looking down on Creation

ness is more imporional product." So said Jigme Singye Wangchuk, King of Bhutan. It was this statement which first made me curious about a mysterious mountain kingdom squeezed between India and Tibet.

The more I found out, the more fascinating it became. As with Tibet, Bhutan's rulers believed in keeping the foreigner out, which means that the country is virtually untouched by the modern world. It is a medieval land of ancient dzong (monasteryfortresses) and archers, and even today the people wear the traditional national costume - by law. They are of Tibetan stock, and their houses are like beautifully built Swiss chalets with huge caves and intricate Buddhist motifs to ward off demons.

It is a stupendously beautiful country. The southern foothills are covered with tropical jungle; the central valleys are highly cultivated and separated from one another by high ridges. The mountains to the north, part of the Himalayan chain, are mostly unmapped, unnamed and unclimbed; many are held sacred, or are gods in their own right.

The king allowed Westerners in for the first time in 1974 to witness his coronation, and since then very limited tourism has been allowed. Whereas the Himalayan kingdom of Nepal, to the west, had 250,000 visitors last year, Bhutan allowed in only 4,000, with about 1,000 of those going trekking around the interior. By stipulating that each tourist had to spend a minimum of \$200 a day, and that they travelled in groups of more than five, Bhutan ensured that the maximum foreign exchange £3.5(4) for a three-week walking holiday. Considering the environmental damage done to parts of Nepal by mass tourism, the King chose wisely.

there as a trek-leader. Each group of were in the country as a privileged vangenerally accompanied by such a rent, and this thought had been bugging person, whose role is to liaise be- me ever since we'd landed. The homily tween the local trekking crew and the was greeted with a stony silence.

ross national happi- clients. The trek-leader bas to sort out airport and hotel check-ins, and be a general troubleshooter and an all-round good egg who makes sure everyone is happy. A sort of Butlin's Redcoat in climbing boots. Flying into Bhutan is an adventure

in itself. You board a miniature aeroplane in Delhi, and drone over the plains of northern India. Beyond the pilot's head you see the Himalayas rear up in slow motion, and soon he announces that he can see Everest. You strain your eyes into the icy glitter. Then the plane begins a sharp descent. It banks round tightly, skims a ridge and suddenly lunges at a tiny airstrip. There is an appalling cacophony from the engines, and you are down in the capital. Thimphu.

I had been briefed for this moment. I raced down the steps and legged it for a small wooden garden shed on the airfield perimeter. With 10 people to clear through immigration I wanted to be first. As I received the last stamp I noticed with grim satisfaction some other poor sod of a trekleader, fists full of passports, trying to fight off his clients. We were going to follow a route that was graded "strenuous". It went through the very heart of the country and along Bhutan's border with Tibet. I fancied doing this because I wanted a close look at some of the unclimbed mountains. The motives of my clients were more complicated. In age they ranged from 40 to 58, in occupation from company director to bookkeeper. For one of them it was the trip of a lifetime; for others, I suspect, it was a way of resolving some deep personal questions.

Our journey began at the extraordinary Taksang Monastery, or Tiger's Nest. It is attached, more like a swallow's nest, to a 4,000ft precipice. This entered the country, together with is where the Guru Padma Sambhaya the minimum foreign disturbance. flew to Tibet on the back of a tiger to of Buddhism into Bhutan. We were gazing at this building, which resembles a ston-super-Mare guest-house bolted to a diff, when I ventured the sugges-I was fortunate enough to per- tion that as tourists we ultimately snade a four company to send me destroyed what we had come to see. We Westerners walking in the interior is guard of what I fear will become a tor-



Tiger's nest: Taksang Monastery clings to a 4,000ft precipice

a congenial life. You are woken soon after dawn and given a steaming cup of tea. Shortly afterwards, as you digest the view of pink mountains through the tent door, an aluminium washing-bowl of hot water is placed dressed, you pack a kit-bag and daypack. The kit bag goes on one of 26

tents and load the animals. Then the trials of trek-leadership start. As I was warned, two of the clients - usually the younger men will decide to walk as fast as they can along the trail to prove that they are

And so began the trek proper. It's tougher than the others. They then reach a fork, and inevitably choose the path less travelled. They get lost and attempt to rejoin the correct track by traversing a steep and dangerous ridge that intervenes. Eventually they stumble into camp well

Walking in early morning in Bhutan is enthralling. For anyone who likes ponies, the day-pack on you. Then, gardening it is a constant delight; two while you eat breakfast at a table outof the clients were amateur botanists side, the camp-staff take down the and the air was regularly split with cries of pleasure as they spotted a tree-hanging orchid or a familiar conservatory plant. Lunch might be had sitting on a natural lawn next to a river, or amongst the rocks on a high pass. Another three hours' walking and the

night's camp-site is reached, and usually tea is ready. I loved the way the ponies rolled on the ground with joy when their loads were removed.

Trekkers are so few and the country so uninhabited that we were able to have fires most nights. This simply isn't by deforestation. One night we camped at the remote village of Laya. The people here are famous for their yak-hair clothes and curious conical bamboo hats. And as I listened that night to the extraordinary singing of the local girls
- a strange, hypnotic threnody - I felt oddly dislocated back into a medieval land. Forget time travel, I thought; the past is here, now, and in Bhutan.

Graham Hoyland

alfway through the Consul sent our conversation, me all the way to the bank. I wasn't laughing. mind. The prospect of a visa was receding with each searching question about my intentions and resources. Being told to scurry off in search of flimsy proof of financial probity seemed a final indignity. But, studying the bank statement intently, he concluded that I was unlikely singlehandedly to undermine society.

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After a percussive flurry of rubberstamping, I emerged with my prize: the right to visit the Co-operative Republic of Guyana confidante of the USSR.

Seven years on, the bureaucratic tangles for travellers to the Soviet Union (plus its friends and distant relations) have unravelled. The queues outside embassies in the "Bayswater triangle" in West London have dwindled. Prospective visitors to Poland and



Simon Calder

Hungary, the Czech Republic and Guyana

no longer need visas.

Even at the handsome Russian embassy, the officials began to smile and phase out the traditional "No".

Yes, you can have a visa without a detailed. pre-paid itinerary. Yes, f you need to fly to Moscow tomorrow you can have a visa today. The biggest country on earth opened up to the world's largest industry. On Wednesday, the

Cold War broke out again. A fax from the Russian Consulate-General in Edinburgh revealed that "tit-for-6,000 miles east, an tat" diplomacy has interview in the Russian spread to tourism. The capital is not awfully problem is Britain's convenient. And even attitude to Russian after the one-week train, visitors. Until the there is no guarantee collapse of the USSR, that the precious visa restriction on Soviet will be issued. tourists were academic. The Russians are set Now, thousands of the

to give British travellers a taste of the same medicine. As well as your passport and three mugshots, you must supply "a confirmation issued by a Russian tourist company accredited by the Foreign Ministry^a.

Even if you clear this mountain of paperwork. The Consulate General reserves the right to call the applicants for an interview and to ask questions dealing with personal, financial, business issues as well as with your Russian

contacts and partners". A bottle of vodka awaits the reader who reports the best dialogue with the Consul. Meanwhile, I commend a visit to the now genuinely Co-operative Republic of Guyana.

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before the advent of the 'package tour'. Northern Cyprus offers the traveller everything that is required for a peaceful, relaxing and stress-free break. The scenery is nothing short of magnificent, the history fascinating, the people welcoming, the food excellent and the weather all you would expect from an Eastern Mediterranean location.

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A corner of London that is forever green

Anna Pavord finds an oasis of self-help

stoics), gardeners generally are not mili-individuals, but done for the pleasure of tant - even in their own defence. But when Islington Council withdrew an Islington Council to fix the patch. They'd annual £12,000 grant from the Culpepper pay three times as much to garden it Community Garden in north London, the local people who garden there fought hard to defend the patch that provides them (and anyone else who wants to walk there) with a restorative touch of green in an area that desperately needs it.

Cloudesley Road. Over the railings, you constant irritation. Some money is needed each no more than 10ft by 12ft, growing spent on the sturdy compost bins that an extraordinary mixture of trees, fruit, flowers and vegetables. One plot is full of comfrey, grown to make liquid feed. body who lives nearby can ask for a plot. Another has a mouthwatering selection as long as they do not have a garden. Mr of broccoli. A third has sedum, lavender. euphorbia and daffodils, each daffodil surrounded with scraps of red brick.

ecause gardening teaches you the value of the long view and the virtues of stoicism (plants are great virtues of stoicism (plants are great from an allotment site. It is gardened by under council tender, as public parks are.
I asked Ken Standing, chairman of

Culpepper's management committee, how Islington's grant was spent. Most of it is used to pay a garden worker, Nicola Reynolds, who looks after the bits The garden, next door to a children's between the plots and, by her presence, playground, is at the south end of cuts down on the vandalism that is a stand behind the community hut.

There's no vetting of members. Any-Standing said they had Italian gardeners, Spanish and Portuguese. That explained why there were so many good vegetables Like allotment sites, this community there. Especially calabrese. And red-

One tiny patch was rather grandly planted with an evergreen Magnolia grandiflora. That was worth £6,000 as a heart lift on its own. There were amelanchiers in delicate blossom, and a fine alder tree growing by the hut. Over the brick wall that closes off the garden from Cloudesley Road, a sweet-scented Clematis armandii flung long, voluptuous trails.

So what's the fate of the garden now? The Culpepper gardeners won a victory in persuading Islington not to dump them altogether, but the council has halved their grant to £6,000. The management committee is loth to put up garthey don't want the place to become, in Mr Standing's phrase "an inward-looking, garden clubby sort of place." The search for alternative funding is on.

If you would like to contribute, go to the Culpepper Community Garden plant sale on Sunday 27 April, 11 am-1pm. To join the community garden, call 0171-833 3951.



inventiveness of gardeners

Sponge the leaves of

nunal cause: Culpepper Garden is a shrine to the

Scented and frilly yellow dancers

them in our garden. They swell and increase mightily, while continuous season of flowering my precious tulips dwindle.
Most of them (except the "tazzetta" types such as 'Cheerfulness') seem to enjoy the damp bears considered. the damp, heavy ground.

It didn't surprise me either that, although I keep saying that I'm not mad about them. there are more than 20 different kinds flowering at the noment in the garden.

The ones with a swoony smell are best. That puts Quail near the top of the list, along with other jonquils such as 'Trevithian' and the much tinier 'Baby Moon' which grows to 6in or 7in tall. The original wild jonquils are natives of Spain and Portugal and grow in damp meadows along the river valleys of the Douro, the Tejo and the Guadalquivir. 'Quail' has a particularly sweet smell, and is I have them growing in clumps Iron Acton, near Bristol, tomorbetween cones of box in a row 2pm-6pm, admission narrow border.

Trevithian' and 'Quail' are both flowering now. The smaller Single Jonquil, more like the wild species, comes later this month, fabulously scented, with a clear yellow flower well set against grassy,

narcissus flowering now, is ele-gant with its creamy flowers and long-fingered petals, but it has no smell. It lights up a dark patch under a spreading arm of ceanothus, but I wouldn't plant it next to a path, There, pure white frill round a small. glowing orange centre.

though they might be growing there of their own accord. That means avoiding the monster

seed mixture to suit the site.

Think about stakes now...

Letting nature take its

course is all very well, but

'm not surprised to find yellow trumpet daffodils such that in the 10 years this as 'Golden Harvest' and column has appeared, I've never written about daffodils. What loon would want to write about daffodils when they could be writing about the writing about they could be writing about the writing a tulips? But, in the interests of fair play, they ought to have an outing. And, of course, they are a great deal easier to please they evilled the course and the course are self-assistant to please they evilled the course and the course and the course are self-assistant to please are self-assistant to please are self-assistan are a great deal easier to please than tulips. It's one of the most irritating things about them in our garden. They swell baton in May, to give a long,

> the bulbs in ground refreshed with a couple of handfuls of bonemeal. Water the clumps well when they have been resettled. The best time to do this is between July and September when top growth has died down (and you've forgot-

ten where the clumps were). Remember that the best flowers are usually produced in the second year after planting, though the greatest number of flowers will probably follow in the third year after planting.

SEE daffodils at Brodie Castle. Forres, Moray, Inverness-shire, Mon-Sat 11am-5.30pm, Sun 1.30pm-5.30pm, udmission £3.60; Bailton House, Stama clear, bright yellow, the cup exactly the same colour as the frill around it. There can be two or three flowers together on a stem, about 12-14 in tall.

Leave the exactly sweet smell, and is a clear, bright yellow, the cup ford, Cambs. tomorrow 2pmford, Cambs row 2pm-6pm, admission £1.50; Bramdean House, Bramdean, Hants, tonorrow 2pm-5pm, admission £2. BUY daffodils in autumn from

Ballydorn Bulb Farm, Ballydom Hill, Killinchy, Newtowscented, with a clear yellow flower well set against grassy, rich green foliage.

'Thalia' one of the Triandus narcissus flowering now, is ele-242931); Copford Bulbs, Dorsetts, Birch Rd, Copford, Colchester, Essex CO6 IDR (01206

330008).
READ 'Narcissus, a Guide to Wild Daffodils' by John Blanyou need something like the chard (Alpine Garden Society f22). Knowing how the various ness', which grows to about species grow in the wild gives you scented. So is 'Geranium', ing daffodils happy in the garden.
another of this family, with a JOIN The Daffodil Society, Sec: Mrs Jackie Petherbridge. The Meadows, Puxton, Nr Weston-For naturalising in grass, you super-Mare, N Somerset BS24 need daffodils that look as 6TF (01934 833641), subscription £5 a year.

ANNA PAVORD

gardening







Now three of them have published booklets about their collections. Denis Bradshaw has been building up his honeysuckle Woodland Nursery grown WILD FLOWER BOLBS collection for 100 years and CHRYSANTHEMUMS now has about 100 different. 2 · 3 vr old bluebell bulbets £7.50 per 100; £15 per 250 Bluebell seeds. £7.50 per 1000, £15 for 2500 Mature wild kinds. His 24-page booklet For FREE Colour (£3.95) includes Catalogue contact: Daffodii bulbs 25 for £7.50, 50 for £12.50. Includes free delivery and informative Wiki information on looking Dept (IN), Main after and pruning honeysuckles. Sylvia Norton Road, Wrangle. Flower catalogue with luit Boston, Lines. has written about her PE22~9ATcollection of lathyrus, Oywoodd LLZ3 710 01678 530427 cousins of the sweet-pea TEL; 01205 87001 (£3.95 for a 30-page

Weekend work

conservatory-grown camellias to clean off sooty of frost has passed. mould. Soft soap is best for this job. Remove old wood and overcrowded shoots from indoor abutilons. Start canna roots into growth in boxes of moist compost. They give a magnificently tropical air to a mixed border, but, like dahlias, can't go out until all danger

If you have a new lawn in mind, resist the temptation to skimp on preparation. Rake soil several times in different directions to get a level surface. Get rid of all stones and shuffle over the soil in your boots to tread down the surface. Choose a

nature did not invent topheavy delphiniums. Single bamboo canes are fine for these cathedral spires. Use twiggy pea sticks for plump plants such as Michaelmas This week:

daisies, and tall half-moon stakes for shrub roses such as "Ispahan".

Continue to sow seeds of annuals to flower in the garden this summer. "Full Sun" (Suttons, 95p) is a classic huge yellow sunflower with heads 12in across. "Velvet Queen" (Thompson & Morgan, £1.59) has flowers of a sumptuous mahogany.



first of the pleasure of being

focus on special plant collections booklet). John and Jean

Ainsworth's 54-page booklet (£4.95) is about the family of sarracenias, North American pitcher plants. The booklets are all available by post from the NCCPG at The Pines, RHS Garden, Wisley, Woking, Surrey GU23 6QP. Add 50p

for postage and packing. Denis Bradshaw's honeysuckle collection is held at J Bradshaw & Son, Busheyfields Nursery, Herne, Herne Bay, Kent CT6 7LJ (01227 375415) and is open Tues-Sat, 10am-5pm, admission £1. Sylvia Norton's collection of lathyrus is at Weavers Cottage, 35 Streetly End. West Wickham, Cambridge CB1 6RP (01223 892399) and is open by appointment only during the sweet pea season. The Ainsworth's collection of more than 120 pitcher plants is at Bank Farm, Bank Head Lane,

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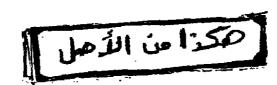
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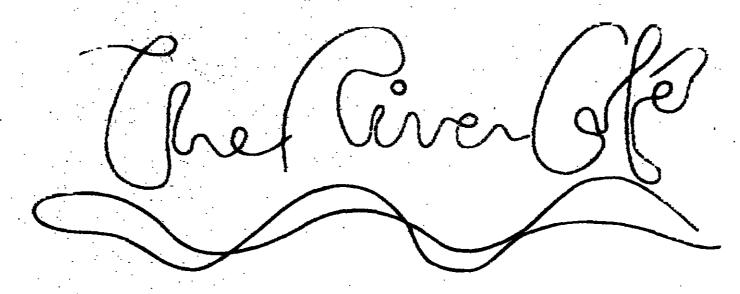


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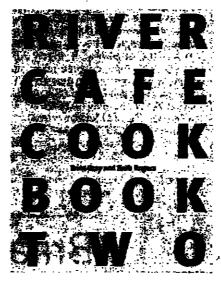
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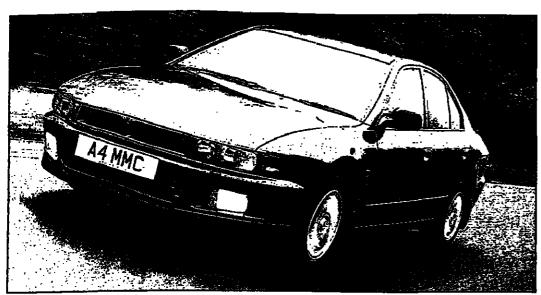
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Stella McCartney: reaching the heights in haute couture22 Lindsay Calder: plumbing the depths of haute

ROAD TEST Mitsubishi Galant By John Simister



Japan turns Teutonic

are every four years or so, but I bet you'll find it hard to piclook like without the prompt of a picture. After all, what we're talking about is just some more grey Japanese porridge, isn't it? Toyota Carina, Nissan Primera, Mazda 626. Honda Accord, Mitsubishi Galant - none of them exactly leaps out and thrusts its personal-

Maybe that's because Japan's economic miracle is abating, production costs are high, profits are disappearing and, more than ever, Japanese car-makers are playing safe, conservative and - the B-word that every UK importer of Japanese cars detests - bland. But

wait. See that chiselled nose with its chamfered corners? Not much sign of the default-design inane grin here. See that tidy tail, also rather pleasingly chiselled? It's almost BMW-like. See that curving rear roof-line, the cut of the rear pillars, the broad-shouldered rear wheel arches? Germanic

Here's a breath of fresh air: a Japanese car with an identity of its own, and a rather European one as it bigger than most of its mainstream compatriots outlined above, virtually Volvo S70size, an upmarket shift made possible by the recent arrival of the Dutch-built, Mondeoconfronting Mitsubishi Carisma (a car whose identity and aura are definitely not eponymous, never mind any

solecisms of spelling). Talking of which, Mitsubishi is backing a new "Galant" driving course to promote courtesy on the

itsubishi Galant. Yes, it's road as well as the new Galant. This but V6s start at £20,610 and you all new, as Japanese cars is laudable, if slightly tacky; fortucan have a 2.0-litre for £17,210. nately, the car is rather good, too. In Japan it gets the new, highture what a new Galant might economy, Gasoline Direct Injection engine I described in these pages a few weeks ago, but for Europe that engine is Carisma-bound instead. (It's destined for Volvo's \$40 and V40, too, because these cars and the Carisma are fruits of a Mitsubishi/Volvo joint venture.)

So European Galants come with either a 2.0-litre, four-cylinder engine of 134bhp or, as in the car I tested, a new 2.5-litre V6 which delivers 161 bhp. My car also came with the optional automatic transmission, air-conditioning and leather trim, which together push the price up to £23.540 on the road, you move off, too, because the V6

Mitsubishi Galant 2.5 V6

Price: £23,540 OTR with auto transmission

and powered leather seats. Engine: 2,498cc, V6, 24 valves, 16lbhp at

5,750rpm; four-speed automatic gearbox,

Performance: top speed 134mph, 0-60 in

Ford Mondeo 2.5 V6 Ghia X, £22,810 OTR

Smaller, cheaper, quicker than Galant, with

less comfort and less sense of occasion.

Peugeot 406 V6, £23,640 OTR Very rapid,

a Peugeot to beat the German icons.

Volvo S70 2.5 20V CD, £26,215 OTR

terrific handling, wonderfully comfortable;

Biggest and most expensive of these rivals,

Rapid and reasonably roomy, but the least fun to drive of these rivals. Decent but

Volkswagen Passat 2.8 V6 synchro, £21,841

OTR Still a couple of months away, even though price fixed, but quick, capable, well

designed; 4-wheel-drive VW is the best

five-cylinder engine sounds good; build

Vauxhali Vectra V6 CDX, £21,690 OTR

Fuel consumption: 25-30mpg.

Specifications

front-wheel drive.

quality is not great.

forgettable.

Estate-car versions are available for an extra £800, but as yet Britain is to be denied the turbocharged, four-wheel-drive, 280bhp VR-4 version offered in Japan. "It's too manic," Shunji Takeshita, the Galant project manager, told me.

There's nothing very adventur-ous about the Galant's interior, but it's well made out of high-quality materials, and is pleasing enough to the eye provided you don't look too closely at the fake wood. The doors shut with a solid "thunk", the front seats adjust electrically, and the whole car has a feeling of substance that the smaller Carisma lacks.

engine is both quiet and muscular, and the automatic transmission, which adapts its gear-change strategy to what it considers to be your style of driving over the past few miles, is responsive without being snatchy. It suits the engine well, helping brisk progress to be smooth and

Supple, "multilink" sus-pension helps here, too: it soaks up bumps effectively, while keeping firm control of unwanted lurching and heaving to the benefit of and the precision of the handling. The Galant corners confidently without drifting wide or losing its balance, and the steering feels reassuringly weighty at speed.

I like this car. It looks good, it feels all-of-a-piece, it's satisfying to drive, and it has definite stirrings of personality. Makes a change from all those haughty Germans, too. Just a shame it has a silly name.

The reborn company's new sports bike is challenging Honda, writes Roland Brown

umph's new T595 Daytona sports bike outsold Honda's mighty contender, the CBR90ORR Fire-Blade, in the first three months of this year will have come as no surprise to enthusiasts who have tried to buy one - the British bike is sold out for several months to come.

Such was the response when the 995cc three-cylinder road burner was revealed last autumn that the Triumph was guaranteed a high ranking in the sales charts even before it had turned a wheel in anger.

Why the excitement? The T595—

the factory code name - is the first Hinckley-built bike to compete head-on with the Japanese and Italian firms in the large-capacity supersports class, motorcycling's most glamorous and hard-fought arena. More to the point, the new British challenger is proving itself good enough to hold its own against the FireBlade and Ducati's 916.

Until now, Triumph's remarkable rise since being relaunched six years ago had been based on fine but con-servative models that shared many components, including their frame and most engine parts. This kept production costs down, and allowed Triumph to expand its range quickly.
It also prevented the specialisation required to make a competitive sports bike.

The T595 Daytona is significant not just because it is Triumph's best bike yet but because it represents a decision by John Bloor, the firm's boss, to attack the super-sports market with a purpose-built machine for the first time. Even so, Triumph's designers quickly whipped off the fairings to create a second new model, the aggressively styled T509 Speed Triple.

Raising the stakes in such a high-

profile way was a bold move for a small company (Triumph employs 450 people), but so far the gamble is paying off. With the 1,550 machines allocated to the British market before August all accounted for, the T595 looks set to be one of category - not bad for a machine that costs almost £10,000. Export reputation for reliable if unspectacdemand is high, too.

Amid the euphoria, it barely seems possible that just seven years ago the British motorcycle industry was apparently dead. From BSA to Vincent, the great names had folded one by one. The old Meriden-based Triumph firm had struggled on longer than most, but eventually succumbed to the Japanese-led inva-

Then Bloor, a Derbyshire builder who had bought the bankrupt Tri-



Wheeling back in Triumph

umph from the liquidator in 1983, revealed a hi-tech new factory and the range of three- and four-cylinder superbikes that his firm had been developing in secret. Few could understand why a successful businessman who didn't even ride a motorbike should sink tens of millions of pounds into a doomed industry. But Bloor, 53, hadn't gone from plasterer to multi-millionaire by accident. He had spotted a gap in the market for a high-quality, massproduced British motorcycle - and has delivered just that.

umph's first bikes quickly gained a fitted with top-quality suspension ular engineering, and sold well in Britain. But progress in the important German market was slow, and Triumph's four-cylinder models were too reminiscent of Japanese bikes of a few years earlier.

One of Triumph's assets is its ability to react quickly. The firm shifted emphasis towards the more distinction has risen steadily, from 2,000 bikes in 1991 to last year's total of 14,000, of which 70 per cent were exported. And now Bloor has decided Triumph is big enough for a serious super-sports challenge.

Enter the handsome T595 Daytona, with its powerful three-cylinder engine, its innovative frame of oval-section aluminium tubes, and its swoopy all-yellow (or black) body-work. The 995cc, 12-valve motor is fuel-injected and tuned with the help of Lotus Engineering. It produces a maximum of 128bhp slightly more than the 916 and Fireand brakes.

The result is sensational - a thrillingly fast machine with its own distinct character. Its riding position is unashamedly aggressive, with low handlebars and rearset footrests. The engine is flexible, smooth and hugely powerful; the French-made fuel-injection system gives instant response to hurl the bike towards its tive triples, revamped its German 160mph top speed. Only a slight flat-network, improved existing bikes spot at 5000rpm and an occasionally and introduced new ones. Produc- notchy six-speed gearbox earn less than top marks.

Handling is excellent, too. The Daytona's blend of light weight, rigid frame, taut suspension and well-chosen chassis geometry makes the triple slightly less manoeuvrable than the FireBlade, but correspondingly more able.

The naked T509 Speed Triple which combines the T595's chassis with a detuned, 107bhp engine of the original 885cc capacity, is itself a quick and eye-catching machine. At £8,299 the Triple is considerably less expensive than the £9,649 Daytona, and will not be the only model to benefit from technology developed for the sportster. Rumours are already circulating of others under

development This year's production will total around 15,000., the highest yet. In the near future Bloor plans to move to a larger factory on an adjacent site- although he says he won't build more than 25,000 bikes, preferring to keep Triumph small and flexible. When you consider that 10 years ago the British bike industry's total production was close to zero, even that would represent an amazing achievement

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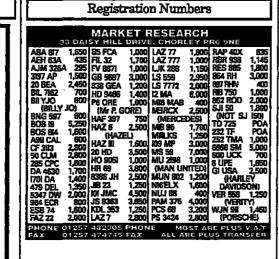
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Britain needs Power at its elbow

eliability was once the single most important factor-when buying a new car. This is hardly surprising; after all, if the car failed to perform its primary duty - getting from A to B - then the fetching styling, the low price and the shiny red paint job wouldn't really be of much use. Back in the bad old days of BL, when British cars spent as much time on the hard shoulder as they did in the fast lane, reliability was crucial. It's one reason why BL sales crumbled. It's what gave

the Japanese their footbold in Europe. Now, it's changed. The Japanese have given the world the assumption of mechanical reliability. Everyone else has tried hard to match them. In many cases, they've come close. In all cases, they've improved. If a car fails on the road, it fails in the showroom. There's just no room for the old BL excuses these days - which is why car reliability is no longer the main buying factor. All cars are reliable even if, like equality, some are more reliable than others. Instead, apart from one's own past experience, style is now the number

one factor when buying a car.
Yet as a recent plethora of consumer studies have just shown, the differences between the makers of the most reliable cars and the least reliable are still meaningful. As the strugglers try to catch the Japanese, so the Japanese -

in turn - just keep getting better.

The best publicised study, on owner satisfaction and car quality, was done by the American consumer group JD Power in conjunction with Top Gear, the television programme and magazine. Viewers and readers of twoyear-old cars were urged to respond and, in turn, JD Power sent out questionnaires. There were 16,498 responses. It showed that Subaru was top manufacturer, that the Toyota Corolla was the single model that gave owners most satisfaction, and that big sellers such as the Ford Escort, Vauxhall Astra and Ford Mondeo languished near the bottom - even though 80 per cent of M-reg Ford buyers still found themselves satisfied.

Predictably, those makers who did badly accused J D Power of unfairness. Those manufacturers who did well took out ads. The main accusation is that JD Power uses self-selectors - in other words, people asked to be surveyed, not vice versa. Thus it was not a random survey. Some marketeers will tell you that makes it flawed.

A month or two back, What Car? - Top Gear's major magazine rival - had its own survey done in conjunction with the vehicle leasing company Lex. This one sampled 73,000 fleet cars. It rated Mitsubishi as the maker of the most reliable vehicles, followed by BMW, Mercedes and Honda. There were some massive variations compared with JD Power - Fiat did well in Lex but badly with JD Power - even though, broadly, Japanese makers again did best. Although the Lex survey undoubtedly helps consumers, its main failing is obvious: it did not ask the opinions of private buyers. Nor

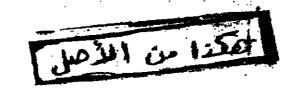
did it take into account experiences with dealers, one of the key aspects of JD Power, Chether Rail

and a major factor in owner satisfaction.
In July, Which? comes out with its annual car reliability survey. This, as with the other two, usually tends to show the primacy of the Japanese, and the failings of Ford, Rover and Vauxhall. These surveys may be inconclusive in some areas, but they're pretty emphatic in others. If you seek solid satisfaction from your car, and your dealer, you're best advised to buy Japanese and, in particular, Toyota, Honda, Subaru or Mitsubishi.

Gavin Green There's little doubt, though, that Britain still lacks the definitive car-buying satisfaction guide. In America, they have it – and it's also done by J D Power. There, makers await the results just as keenly as they await sales data. Indeed, the latter often follows the former. Good JD Power ratings in America can help make a marque (it contributed to Lexus's rise), while poor results can kill them (it helped to get rid of Yugo, and not before time).

The key difference in America is that they don't need people volunteering to be surveyed in order to build a database of owners. In America, JD Power, helped by the Freedom of Information Act, buys the names and addresses of the vehicle owners direct from the US equivalent of the DVLA, the state-run DMV (Department of Motor Vehicles). They then send out questionnaires at random. Responses are invariably much bigger. Typically, 30,000 people respond, double the British rate. More questions can also be asked. In America, buyers are asked specifically about their thoughts on initial quality (after 90 days of ownership and again after one year), as well as longer term satisfaction.

JD Power approached the DVLA back in the early Nineties but was rebuffed. Subsequent approaches have also been made. The answer was again no: the DVLA wanted to preserve the confidentiality of its files. A major consumer service was thus denied us. Mind you, part of me retains a grudging respect for an organisation that refuses to sell its "client" data base. If only my bank were that principled.



صكدًا من الأصل



Staying healthy is an uphill fight for mothers. An exclusive report from **Debbie Davies** t starts so well for women.

They're so much more grownup and intelligent about their health lives - good food, exercise, not too much drink, careful on the cigarettes.

Then they get married. Then they have children. Then it all goes

In their early (15-24) years 71 per cent of women take part in sport and exercise, but by the time they reach 45-54 fewer than one in three are doing so.

More than half of women under

25 try new health products. This does not occur to two out of three men. Women resist fatty foods and sweets far more determinedly than men in their teens and twenties, and are far more likely to eat fresh fruit and vegetables than men. But with the arrival of children, women's resistance is eroded.

It may well be that women can justifiably claim better dietary habits than men throughout their lives, but the main beneficiaries of their ability to choose a better diet appear to be their partner and their children. According to a report into healthy lifestyles pub-lished by Mintel, the market research company, women are gencrally more likely to eat fresh fruit and vegetables regularly, and to keep down the amount of fat in their diet, than men.

Only once they pass the age of 65 do women express a greater fondness for fish and chips and fried foods than men, and at no stage in their lives does their consumption of red meat exceed that of men. If they have a dietary weakness, it is for sweets and chocolates: more women than men say they occasionally treat themselves to these.

Despite carrying the flag for healthy cating, women are more likely to be obese than men: 16 per cent of women are obese compared to 13 per cent of men, and the trend coronary disease and strokes.

stages women progress through as slightly underweight. they grow up, marry and become a Once they acquire a partner, so parents, especially women, are parent, explain in part why their best women set about changing their more likely than those without intentions do not always translate husband's dietary habits for the into health benefits for themselves. better. Married men are more likely

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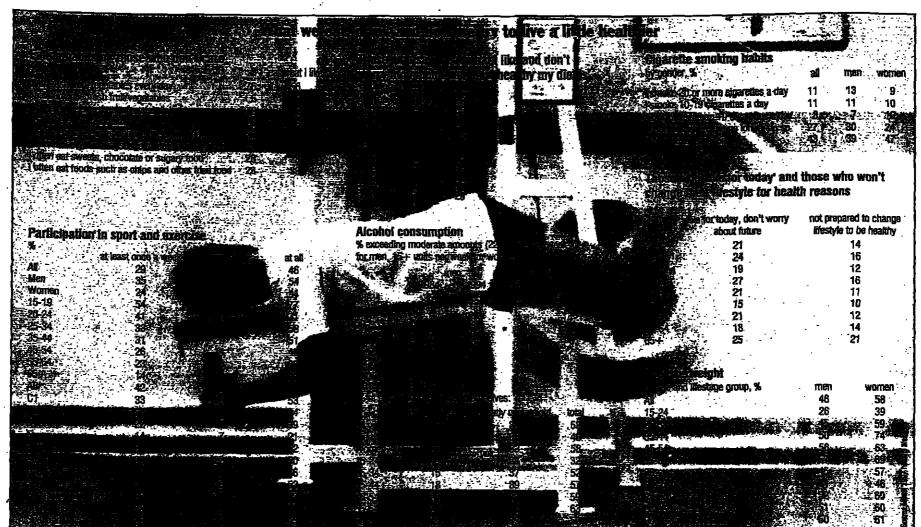
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Why living can be so unfair on the fairer sex

women are the most enthusiastic cut down on red meat consumption, health consumers, according to and less likely to eat chips and fatty Mintel. This is easy to understand. While boys get muscles, girls grow curves, and although their shapes become more voluptuous, they live among women is moving away in a world of one-dimensional about healthy eating increases as care to include fresh fruit and veg-from government targets. At a time screen and fashion magazine role they take on the task of moulding etables in their diet on a daily basis. when so many appear to jog, cycle models. Consequently, nearly half a new generation. But in reality, or keep fit, women have become are keen to try new ways of keep motherhood is more a dietary fatter and so face increased risk of ing healthy, and most take exercise. Ked meat is deninitely out then Mintel's proposition is that the mean and one in ten claims to be and chips, followed by ice cream

Before marriage and a family, to eat fresh fruit and vegetables and

foods, than men who remain single. Having children marks the next

major change in women's dietary habits. As mothers, their concern remoulding process in reverse. Callaren om and washed down with fizzy drinks, children to eat sugary and fatty foods on a regular basis. Once children have left home,

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women are keen to regain their old eating habits. Vegetables are back on the menu. More than nine out of ten 45 to 54-year-old women. compared to about three-quarters of those in the 35-44 age group, take As they approach the mid-fifties, their interest in following a low-fat diet is rekindled: nearly two-thirds women in the 55-64 age group believe they are overweight.

With age comes resignation. One in five post-family women - a higher proportion than in any other of their health. For the first time in reach motherhood nearly one in

less likely than men to opt for a lowfat diet, and having always eschewed a "live for today" lifestyle, they become as likely as men to adopt this attitude. While men's interest in health advice increases as retirement approaches, women's declines. because of the ups and downs of

There is consolation for women, according to Angela Hughes, edirieatiny Lifestyles tor or the Report". "Women do get there family stage," Ms Hughes added. first on healthy eating," said Ms There is not always time to prepare Hughes. "Early on they are enthusiastic health consumers, so the culgroup - say they are not prepared ture is already here." They will try

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their adult lives, women adopt less five will have taken herbal or home-healthy diets than men. They become opathic medicines. Men. by comopathic medicines. Men, by comparison, are latecomers. "Only when diet-related health problems start to kick in at age 40-plus do men really take healthy diets on board," said Ms Hughes.

Women come unstuck more life than through bolding mistaken beliefs. "Women's lives become verv nectic v proper meals, and the enticements of fat and sugar increase.

Oscar Wilde, who could resist to change their lifestyle for the sake new ideas, and by the time they everything except temptation, would understand.

When women like to get more physical

en call it sport; women grit their teeth and call it exercise. According to Mintel's research, women are far more likely than men to endure physical activity for the sake of their health than are men, with one in three women taking part for health reasons compared to only one in four

Women's dedication is reflected in their choice of sports. They are most likely to be found swimming, or attending keep-fit classe both of which are solitary pastimes. By comparison, men choose team sports football, rugby and cricket spring to mind – and relegate health and fitness considerations to third place; behind the social aspects and competitive element of their

Men may be less earnest than women in their motivation, but their ability to enjoy their sport makes them better than women at participating regularly. At all ages, bar the 55-60 age group, men are more likely than women to play sport as a matter of course, and this is especially true during middle age when a big decline in female sport and exercise participation occurs as women become mothers.

There is an irony in the way sport is marketed to women, with the focus on fitness rather than enjoyment. According to Mintel, exercise offers women an effective route for tackling obesity. While regular exercisers and those who take little or no exercise admit to similar diets, the two groups demonstrate a clear link between exercise and weight: 64 per cent of nonexercisers, compared with 43 per cent of those who exercise regularly, say they degree; and 37 per cent of those avoiding exercise are "quite a bit overweight". compared to less than one in 10 regular exercisers. Perhaps women need to become less sporty about sport.

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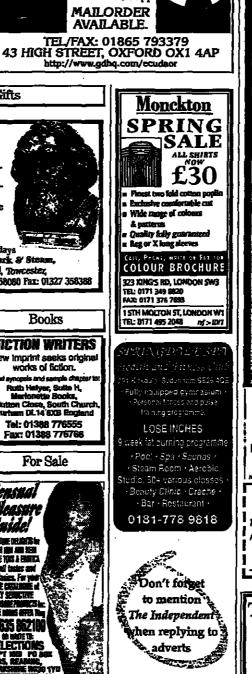
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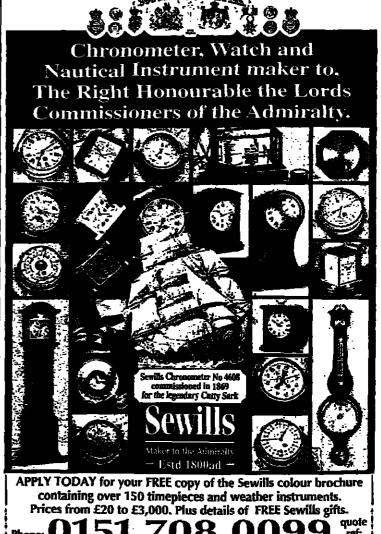


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Not groundbreaking or scary - just great clothes. **Tamsin** Blanchard meets Stella McCartney

ust don't ask me about my parents." Stella McCartney is slumped over the desk in her small Westbourne Grove has been quoted as saying he white-walled office. Her name hangs around her neck on a gold chain. It is three in the afternoon and she has spent the day either being interviewed or replying to requests for interviews.

The phone rings again for the umpteenth time that minute. "I'm not doing TV," she tells Phoebe, her suntanned, tattoo-backed PA who will be accompanying her on her big move to Paris, to the house of Chloe where she starts work on Monday. Stella-McCartney is yet another great British export.

She asks for a can of Diet Coke, a habit she shares with



ful designer from whom she takes over as head designer. She has not met him, and he thought Chloe might go for someone a little older, the implication being, with a little more experience.

The fact is, despite her tender twenty-five years, and she has gained more column inches for Chloe since Martine Sithon took over as head designer in 1988.

Whether she likes it or not. nappies. her name will get the label



watch it - she lives it anyway. ground-breaking or scary: just great clothes that she and her friends would love to wear.

She will introduce culottes in the way only someone not old enough to have worn them when they flapped their way She belongs to the new through the seventies could. "I will make it relevant to our generation. I think there is a whole new generation of con-

> islands your dad owns, but she has a point. The phone rings again. "No, this isn't Stella," she says and hands the phone over to Paris,

her PR, a friend who was

date he is with MTV, Stella taken on so they could all the archives," says Stella as McCartney doesn't need to "hang out together." According to Stella, life is "cool" at She will bring to Chloe a the moment. She was origifresh new look, nothing nally approached by Chloe to design another range for the house and then was asked if she thought she could design

the main line. "I haven't ever thought I wanted to be head of a house. It just sort of happened. This is the right time. I'm obviously

ready for it. I have to be." In Paris, she will have whole teams of people working for sumer. If you really want her, seamstresses, pattern cutsomething, you'll buy it, or borrow money from your dad." Depends how many morning to scour flea markets for antique lace. At Chloe there will be the facilities to make all the lace she wants, to her exact specifications. "How

cool is that?" she says.

Under the Counter With Lindsay Calder

rying a magnum of champagne that has just arrived. "Bollinger! Nice!" She won't say who it's from, but it looks like it will be flowers and

champagne from now on. Before leaving for Paris on Monday, Stella has to complete production on her own label for autumn/winter, photographed here by her sister. Mary. After just three short seasons, she promises to

become highly collectable. Part of the deal with Chloe is that she will close her own label and work on Chloe exclusively. Karl Lagerfeld designed it alongside his own label, Chanel ready to wear and haute couture, as well as Fendi. "You feel like your own label is your little baby, but I'm "I can't wait to look through relieved in a way. Press and

when I was going to have to start getting serious with it. Now I can do the designing and other people can have the headaches.' The first thing Stella intends to do when she arrives

at Rue de Faubourg St Honpainted floorboards, an old floor light that doubles as a and green mirror with the letter M painted on the top, chandelier hanging in the middle. Music blares from the stereo, from a collection Stella McCartney for spring. of CD's that ranges from The

Beastie Boys to Beethoven. There are two rails of autumn/winter, but most of through the collection in sur-

This is just a doublebreasted suit... here's a little waistcoat... I use men's fabrics for my tailoring. This is the sort of white shirt that a man would see and think what a cool chick, what a cool shirt." The shirt is monogrammed with the initials SNM. Stella's middle name is Nina, and the monogram only adds to the impression that this is a very intimate collection designed with herself and her circle of

friends in mind. In Stella's work, there are





line tailoring, feminine lace buyers have been enthusiastic, and lingerie, and a side order but it was getting to the stage of trash in the form of Bibafor a tight little top and highheeled boots embroidered with the words "daisy roots". cockney rhyming slang for

boots, picked up from her own style for Chloe. The label is in major need of an overpink velvet sofa, a seventies haul. Browns, the store that has bought Chloe since it years ago, because it was no longer relevant to the cusand a sugar coloured glass tomer. In contrast, the store's new younger shop, Browns Focus, has just begun stocking

Caroline Burstein of Browns is optimistic: "She'll inject some youth into Chloe, clothes, the collection for a lighter, younger, sexier touch. That's what's been the samples are out on a shoot lacking for a long time. One's for British Vogue. She talks me always sceptical because she's young and inexperienced, but prisingly plain speak for a she's a strong person and I designer. There are no hidden think she is talented. She's got references, no deep and pro-found meanings behind the person. I'm sure Chloe haven't done this lightly, and not just because she has famous parents. Hopefully we will be able to buy the label again." Meanwhile, Stella is draining the last drop of her magnum of Bolli and steps into her new daisy roots on Monday morning.

Stella McCartney's Autumn/ Winter '97 collection (shown above) will be available from September. The Spring collection is currently on sale at Browns Focus, South Molton St. London S1. Tokio, 309 three main elements: mascu- Brompton Rd, London SW3.

here and now

press will be there, not so much to see her clothes, but scant eighteen months out of her family and friends sitting Central St Martins, Stella on the front row, And while McCartney may prove to be a Stella McCartney remembers very clever and appropriate her mother's pieces of Chloe choice for the job. Already. in the seventies, "the first year Browns bought it" - a dressy jacket, a little silver halter neck top, a cashmere

skirt - she was only just out of

talked about. When she shows twenty-something generation her first collection for the and while Karl Lagerfeld house in October, the world's prides himself on how up-to-

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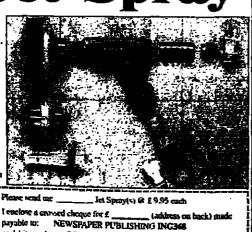
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Highlights of the super-salon hair through a smelly rubber skull-cap to produce strawcoloured (and textured) high-

lights for a further £15. Last week, with my roots behind me, until someone else looking like a freshly tarred runway, I decided it was time to get serious. I needed a Vidal Sassoon, Nicky Clarke - a "salon-to-the-stars" sort of place. John Frieda offered me an immediate appointment lifestyle advert. He was a nowith Jake, who was a senior shit colourist, and after examcolourist, so highlights would be £90. The receptionist asked if I would be seeing anyone else

can't say that my coiffure it didn't even have its name on ing up the Range Rover to has progressed much since the outside—it certainly didn't take his sons fishing, or at my student days and Lil- have "students and pensioners ian's salon in Scotland, where half price on Tuesdays". As I throw, in front of a log fire, Lilian, or one of her daughters, had a good stab at a bob for a voice saying, "Good after-f3.50, and would wrench your noon Miss Calder, Jake is somewhere nice for your hand." expecting you." Spooky. This girl - who would have been a Victorian housemaid in a former life - then stood silently

came to escort me to Jake. I had been expecting a camp young fashion victim, but no. Jake was fortyish, grey and heterosexual, and had just stepped out of a Raiph Lauren ining my hair through his minute of her own reflection, round preppy glasses, got to as they pranced round her work. I couldn't help staring at chair to achieve maximum after Jake. Like who? I said no. him, as he folded up the foils, This place was so smart that wondering why he wasn't load-

home, sitting on a tartan

Instead of the usual "goin' somewhere nice for your holidays?" he talked about art, but fortunately conversation was kept to a minimum, so I watched the rest of the salon through the mirror. All the women were identical slightly classier versions of Dorien from Birds of a Feather - with layered tresses, blinding gnashers and perma-tans. Tycoon-wife next to me had two young men blow-drying her hair and she enjoyed every

outside...

rance of super-salon etiquette was revealed. The rinser asked "who will you be seeing now, "Who will be blow-drying you?" That I didn't know the answer to this was clearly a big no-no, and the rinser excused herself, then scuttled off to have a whispered conflab at the desk. On her return she informed me that I hadn't

want blow-dry? You pay extra. a bad start. She sounded like charging me for a cuppa. an Aussie, so to make conversation I said, "You're a long way from home. Not from these parts with your accent, are you?" "No," she replied uplift. Her Bentley was waiting curtly, "I'm from Hertford-

During rinsing my igno- shire." Two and a half hours, three Hellos and two glasses of water later, I was done. The £90 highlights bill had crept up to Miss Calder?" I looked blank. £110.50 by the time I came to pay: an extra £17.50 for the blow-dry, and, would you believe it, £3 for the water. As if that wasn't bad enough, they didn't take credit cards. OK, the highlights are pretty good - I could stick on a pair of jodhpurs and pose with Jake in a booked to "see anyone after-Polo Sport advert and it would wards" when I telephoned. all look very natural. But maybe The penny dropped - you I'll give Lilian a call to see if Blow-drier and I got off to She wouldn't have dreamt of she's got a cousin in London.

> Half-head highlights from £45-£100, cut £35-£100, blow-dry £17.50-£50, glass of fizzy water £1.50, John Frieda, 4 Aldford Street, London, 0171 491 0840.

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homes & money

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Penny Jackson Z on the dream of a house with a paddock

ny keen young rider who has to beg, borrow or pay large sums of money for a few hours on a pony will know exactly why a house with a paddock is such a dream. The thought of popping through a gate at end of the garden to catch your own horse is not just the stuff of teenage literature, it is what drives parents into the countryside with the inevitable demand for "something with a bit of land".

In fact, estate agents find it is nearly always women who call the shots where horses are involved. Men have been known quietly to mutter in an agent's ear about tennis courts being a priority while the women, often with their daughters, nurture plans for immersing themselves in the local equestrian life.

Geraldine Pearson is no exception. The family moved to their house in east Northamptonshire primarily because she had become fed up with driving her young daughter to where her pony was stabled. "We used to have to get into the car with all the tack every time she went riding or had to feed the pony. Now we can walk straight into our paddock and from there ride for miles through fields without ever crossing a road." Mrs Pearson paints an idyllic picture of the country life of a family that could choose between the stables, tennis court or swimming pool all within the grounds of their Georgian rectory. After I1 years the house is now on the market with Strutt & Parker for a guide price of £650,000.

Geraldine Pearson has been riding since she was six and was able to dispel any notions her daughter may have had about avoiding her responsibilities. "She would do the mucking out before going to school". Nor was Mrs Pearson dismayed when her daughter threw in the towel at 17 "when the boyfriends took over". She still uses her paddock and stables, not least by organising riding for the



stable existence

seen people buying somewhere with 10 or 12 acres and then wondering what to do with them. The child that has insisted to it like a duck to water, but it can be a

the the Burleigh Horse Trials and a num-ber of hunts – it is not surprising that the demand for appropriate homes is insaso passionately on having a pony loses tiable. The fact that it is within commut-interest in a short time. "Some will take ing distance from London adds a certain spice to prices, although it is generally shortlived experience. Stables are moth-considered good value for money. Among balled while various capital elements, like the romantics, Mr King finds a hard core the tack and horsebox, go. They tend to of buyers who clearly know the business.

disabled. But disappointed parents are by no means rare. Stephen King of Strutt & daughter is married and then sell." In Parker's Market Harborough office has such good equestrian country – home to north-facing slopes, I know I am dealing imum acreage, water supply, avoiding north-facing slopes, I know I am dealing with someone who understands horses." Given that there are something like 750,000 equines in the UK, with growing numbers of people wanting to ride, it is hardly surprising that land is under pres-sure. The minimum that a horse needs for grazing is one and a half acres and since they do no good to the land, not many farmers welcome them as tenants.

Ian McConnel of Savills says that in the Banbury area you pay a premium for pony paddocks. "Even if you don't use them, they are easier to lock up than large gardens. Not many people regret having the land." The greatest demand, he says, is for a relatively modest house –£200,000 to £300,000 with a few acres. The land may not be adjoining the property and could be sold as a separate package. If it is a pony paddock, the £2,500-an-acre agricultural price is likely to be doubled.

Riding home: Geraldine Pearson PHOTO: JOHN LAWRENCE

New houses with land are a pretty rare commodity, although Berkeley Homes commodity, although Berkeley Homes has just sold one with three-quarters of an acre. However, that is half the size recommended for grazing a horse. The British Horse Society (BHS) is becoming increasingly worried by the numbers of people dropping unthinkingly into buying one. Money is no protection from ignorance. Jeff Herrington, welfare officer for Devon, has just rescued a horse abandoned in a field by its wealthy I onabandoned in a field by its wealthy London owner to occasional visits. They treated it a bit like an expensive sports car that they expected to start up at the touch of a key. Buying land, stables and the horse is the easy part - it's the commit-ment that counts." When buying land for a horse, he suggests that someone experienced should check the fencing, the quality of the grass, the water supply and whether it has a shelter. "There are too many people with young daughters who look at owning a pony through rose-coloured glasses. The ongoing costs can be extremely high."

It is hardly an estate agent's job to advise on horse welfare, but those in rural areas will often know how suitable the land is. They are certainly aware that there is more money around for those extra acres than a few years ago. But perbaps the reluctant parent of a daughter in the throes of a love affair with horses should take the advice of the BHS. "Send her down to work in the local stables every morning for six months, and every evening, rain or snow. If she still wants one then you are not likely to go

Buying land for a horse

Check it is large enough: At least one and a half acres would allow a rest period for part of the field.

Check the water supply: Main supply or a running stream that will not dry up in first dry spell.

Check state of fencing: It can be expensive to repair. If it is not adjoining the property, be assured that it is secure. There should be some shelter for the horse. If you want to build a stable on the land check first with the relevant authority. Go to the British Horse Society for advice about a horse's needs.

Tell the estate agent exactly what you want: "A bit of land" is not good enough.

Three on view

A horse next door



Spell Howe, a four-bedroom house near Filey in Yorkshire, has views across to the North Sea coast, but the horses would be more interested in the equestrian accommodation which includes two paddocks of almost five acres, and two stables. One-day events, cross-country and showjumping competitions are all within easy reach. With a 25ft sitting-room and 16ft kitchen. For sale at £149,950 through Jacksons (01723 379991)

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Oaklands, a three-bedroom house seven miles from the Devon coast, is the perfect country home for Trigger. There is a two-acre paddock and two stable blocks with tack room and haybarn. On the edge of a village, with school, general store and two pubs, the house has farreaching views across Axminster and the Axe valley. £149,750 through Palmer Snell (01297 35244).

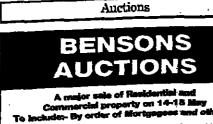


Weavers Cottage near Amberley in Gloucestershire stands in five acres of gardens and paddocks. It has a timber-built stable block with two loose boxes and tack room. The five-bedroom 17th-century house, built of Cotswold stone, was originally a small weaver's cottage, now substantially enlarged. It has a 23ft drawing room, study, conservatory and 20ft kitchen with a green gas Aga. £350,000 through Murrays (01453 755552).

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A beautiful garden can add 20 per cent to the value of a house, writes

join thousands of shoppers who came in to buy a small bag of potting compost and ended up spending £50. If there were a self-help group for Garden Centre Addicts Anonymous, membership would swell as fast as Weight Watchers.

Rosalind Russell

But, if it makes you feel any better, according to estate agents any money spent on improving the garden will repay itself handsomely when the house is put up

If you are selling a traditional stone cottage with wisteria in bloom around the door, you can add up to 20 per cent to the value," says Stephen King, of the estate agency Strutt and Parker. "The next few weeks up to the end of May will be the best time to sell if a property has a good garden. All the plants will be coming into bloom and buyers can see the potential.

In the Halifax Building Society's most recent survey, garden improvements rose to number two in the top 10 must-do list, above installing a fitted kitchen and new bathroom. And a Savills survey of new home buyers showed strong negative reactions to unfinished, sloping, overlooked or badly laid-out gardens.

"Buyers like a good-size garden

with not too deep borders," says Stephen King.

Beech is the favourite for a hedge, as it has leaves all year round and it provides privacy. Weeping willow is the worst."

Strutt and Parker are currently selling Church Cottage, overlooking the village green in Goosey, Oxford-shire, which is a gardener's dream. The gardens are enclosed by yew and beech hedges, and there is a rose-covered pergola, plus four veg- shades of crimson and amber in etable and herb gardens, an autumn, and I wouldn't move home rosebeds. The five-bedroom, 18th-

isit any garden centre century house is being sold for this weckend, and you'll £400,000.

The rose gardens of Glebe House, a stone-built house in Fortingall - the Scottish village said to be the birthplace of Pontius Pilate – are a major selling feature. The four-bedroom house, on the market through Knight Frank for £180,000, is surrounded by a mass

But even the most modest flowerbeds are likely to hold a few hundred pounds' worth of investment. Mature shrubs can be worth up to £30 or £40 each. And it takes a lot just to fill up half an acre. Rye Cottage, south of Basingstoke in Hampshire, is a four-bedroom thatched and beamed Grade II listed house with typical country cottage gardens. Its half-acre has been landscaped, to include stocked flowerbeds, bulbs, rose bushes and mature trees. It is for sale through Hill & Morrison for around £325,000.

It is hardly surprising if vendors try to take as many plants with them as they can. One gardener I know plans to borrow a horse box to transport a couple of much loved small trees to his new home.

It's not uncommon for buyers to roll up with the removal van and find that the garden which so delighted them is now as bare as a wheat field in December.

"When I moved into my former farm worker's cottage in Hampshire," recalls Gillian Morris, "it had been empty for a year. The neighbours had stripped it of every single plant; there wasn't a Brussels sprout to be seen. Typical country folk, though - no point in letting all those vegetables go to waste. On the other hand, I have moved four times with my beautiful Liquidambar styraciflua, which is now about 5ft high. It goes fantastic





garden and take it with them should spell out the details in the precontract enquiry forms which they give to their solicitor.

the property goes on the market," Anyone intending to dig up their Frank. "The lists run through fix- know exactly what we are selling." wanted to take everything, but the idating, especially if they feature chop down the trees.

tures and fittings such as towel rails and taps. Greenhouses, sheds and plants are usually included. If you want to take a plant, dig it up in "This should take place before advance and put it in a pot. The agent must be aware of the



Docklands

As most people choose a house because of its setting, the gardens are part of the package "Most people wouldn't mind if it were just one or two plants," says

Mark Stewart.

buyers objected. In the end she was limited to a dozen, all named specif-

ically. If, however, you take something which was included in the sale, you could be made to replace it."

Not everyone is smitten by gor-They can be

Growing investment: money spent on gardens is multiplied when the house is sold. Above, Church Cottage, far left, Rye Cottage, left, Glebe House

position

complicated and time-consuming

topiary. Stephen King recently took viewers around a country property with four acres of landscaped and terraced gardens; their owners' pride and joy. "They were dismayed by the comments of some viewers. who said they couldn't consider the property because it would need a full-time gardener to look after it." There is also a danger in buying a property and dramatically altering the garden. One buyer in Leicestershire planted trees in what had been a paddock.

When he came to sell, the county being pretty horsey, everyone said it was no good without the paddock -but by then the local authority had reclassified that part of the property as a wood and wouldn't

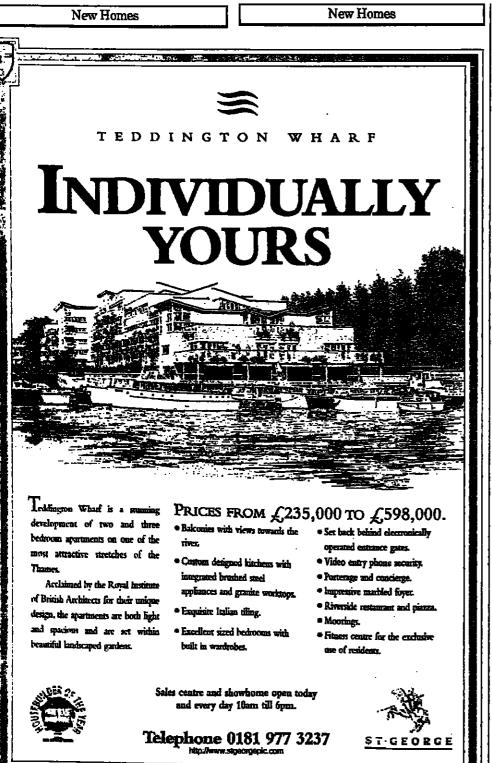
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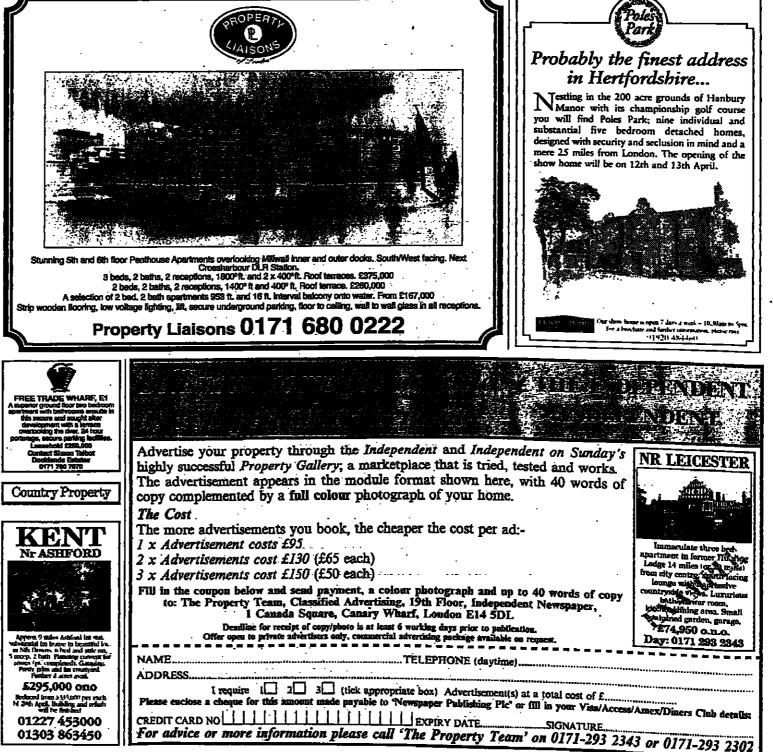
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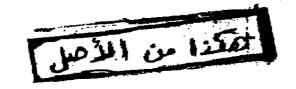
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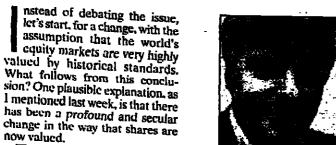
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عكدًا من الأصل



The world-wide fall in inflation, and the consequent reduction in inflation and interest rate expectations, is the obvious why such a change may have occurred. But is it a plausible explanation? And if cycles not, what other factors could be at years.

now valued.

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These questions were addressed this week by the economist Bill Martin and his colleagues at UBS. the big Swiss-owned stockbroking firm. Their conclusion is that the change in inflation alone does not provide an adequate explanation of the stock market's recent climb into stratospheric territory.

Their view is that what has happened is mainly the result of two factors: a reduction in the volatility of economic growth and interest rates all round the world; and



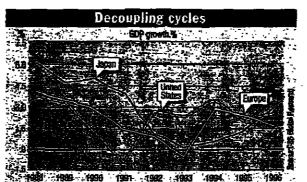
the decoupling of the American, European and Japanese business cycles for the first time in many

Both combine to reduce the traditional uncertainty, or risk, asso-ciated with equity investment. They find, from looking at the recent economic data, that much of the re-rating of shares that has taken place can be attributed to the unprecedented stability of changes in the rate of economic growth in the current decade. As Sherlock Holmes might have remarked, the remarkable feature about the 1990s in economic terms, has been the absence of any cyclical shocks.

The US economy for example

If lower volatility is the new norm it is possible to envisage the 'golden age' staying a while

has continued to grow at a steady lick with none of the periodic setbacks that one would have expected and the UK's experience has not been much different. Since 1992, at least, the rate of economic growth in this country has been remarkably consistent. Interest rates have also been more predictable, and less volatile, than they were. This has had a steady and benign effect on the price of shares. Dividend yields in the US and UK markets, though not in Japan, have fallen consistently since around 1990, reflecting the growing consensus among investors, in the words of UBS, that the business cycle has "been tamed".



into what has been happening to share prices. There can be no doubt that the unusual stability of the economic climate has contributed to the remarkable rise in asset values that we have seen recently in financial markets. Investors dislike uncertainty more than anything. In theory, if they can be persuaded that the cyclical ups and downs of the past have been moderated or even eliminated, it is entirely logical for them to pay a higher price for assets, company shares, whose value today ultimately derives from their ability to generate profit and cash flow in the future. The more

certain these future cash flows are.

the more valuable the shares will

But is this the only explanation of what has happened in stock markets to send them soaring to record levels? UBS is honest enough to say it thinks not:

It estimates the lower volatility of returns explains only a portion of the recent remarkable re-rating of shares. So the UBS is reduced to looking for a simpler explanation for this phenomenon. Its sugges-tion is that the other big factor in the re-rating of shares has been unprecedented decoupling of the American economy from its counterparts overseas.

Whereas before, the three big

regional economies regions, the US, Europe and Japan, have tended to move in a broadly similar direction, that trend has been broken in the 1990s. As my chart suggests, experience since 1991 has been much more unco-ordinated. Partly this seems to be the result of differing policy preoccupations, but partly also of some exceptional events - German reunification, Japan's dose of debt deflation which have thrown the traditional relationships off course. For investors, critically, what it has meant is that the world economy, taken as a whole, has behaved in a

less cyclical way than before. What matters to investors now is whether this happy, benign state of affairs can persist for much longer. If economic conditions are to become more volatile again in future, then we should expect to see some adverse future impact on share price valuations.

If however, there has been a genuine and profound change in the way that the markets operate, with lower volatility a new norm, then it is possible to envisage the current golden age" for equities persisting for some while yet.

Which will it be? UBS is in the more cautious camp. Mr Martin makes the point that one-off events, by definition, tend not to recur. The recent "decoupling" is largely "a fluke", he says, which is likely to lose its force in the next few years: if history is any guide, volatility will return in due course.

The historical parallels are not entirely encouraging. Previous occasions when economic conditions have been free from violent swings in output and interest rates - such as the 1920s and the late 1960s - have tended to be followed by rather violent setbacks in the value of shares.

The last time that people started talking about the "business cycle" having been "tamed" was, as UBS reminds us, in the bull market of the late 1960s, when blue chip companies on Wall Street were selling on ridiculous multiples - 40 or even 50 times earnings.

Things are not quite so extrava-gant this time round, but recognising that the current investment climate is benign is a useful cautionary reminder against entertaining too extravagant expectations for the future.

position on Europe



EMU: Rachel Fixsen reports on the implications for investors

urosceptics may be getting increasprospect of European monetary union, and even the Prime Minister seems to be getting worked up about the threat of a federal Europe. Most investors however treat the EMU as one hig yawn. But whether we in the UK like it or not, Economic and Monetary Union (EMU) is probably going to happen, and its consequences will be anything but dull.

"Within Europe, I would expect EMU to go ahead on time with a core group, and the peripheral countries to join later," says David Aserkoff, equity strategist at securities house Credit Suisse First Boston, "Germany, France and the Netherlands are seen as the core candidates for EMU, with Spain and Italy on

the edges."
Supposing this scenario is right, Mr Aserkoff says manufacturing and export-Volkswagen and German engineering stock Preussag, could be good buys. In the peripheral group, interest-rate sensitive stocks such as hanks might be a better bet, he says. Others say your first move should he to drop shares in countries outside the core group. "My opinion is that the south merchant bank BZW.

Paul O'Connor, UK equity strategist ing hot under the collar at the at BZW, says the strength or otherwise impact the UK market - assuming sterling stays outside the euro-zone. If the euro was stronger than the mark it replaced, this would be good for UK exporters like British Steel. And the euro is more likely to be strong if monetary union is limited to a core group of

countries, Mr O'Connor says. Shares of alcoholic drink companies, which tend to export to the peripheral countries like Spain and Italy, could do badly if EMU only includes the core countries and leaves the peseta and the lira to languish.

If you're happy to go against the grain, believing the UK will sign up for a single currency, you could make significant capital gains buying long-term sterling bonds, Mr Aserkoff says. Long-term bond yields ing stocks within the core group, such as in Britain are now two full percentage points higher than their German equivalents and if the pound merged with the mark the UK yields would drop - sending the selling price of the bond steeply higher.

UK bank and insurance stocks would do well if Britain took part in EMU. "Other financial groups would see them European countries will not be included," as takeover targets, "seeing them as a way of getting a business foothold in the exclusive "euro-zone", Mr Aserkoff says.

Exporters would benefit most directly from monetary union, being able to get of the inner core and outer currencies is away without hedging their currency the key to how monetary union will risks, and without the noise of the exchange rate getting in the way," says Mr O'Connor. He adds that good exporters could well be found in the engineering sector, citing Spirax-Sarco as an example.

Institutional investors can already hold bonds denominated in ecus - a currency based on a basket of European Union currencies and these can be used as an investment bet that monetary union will go ahead. But ecu bonds are denominated in millions of ecu. They are not intended for small investors, and investment funds containing them are hard to find.

You can have an ecu bank account, though. One of the currency funds Fidelity Investments offers, which are designed as deposit accounts, is denominated in ecu. The current rate of interest is 2.9 per cent and you have to have a minimum of £2,000 in your account.

And you can already have euro coins jangling in your pocket. The Isle of Man treasury offers euros in various denominations, minted in silver and gold. These are actually legal tender on the island, although in practice no one pays their shopping bill with them. They are just pretty collectors' items destined to stay in their presentation boxes.

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Speculating on the cheap

Societies and life groups could be high on the takeover hit list



id you cast your vote in favour of Norwich Union's conversion to plc status yesterday? Are you likely to want to apply for more shares? Or are you like those people who add up to 27 per cent of Alliance & Leicester members and plan to dive for the exit as soon as dealings begin.

dealings begin.

I found this last statistic mystifying. When we were seeking to add an extra share to the list of potential buys in the banking sector recently, one of my colleagues remarked how sad it was we could not yet include Alliance & Leicester.

Alliance & Leicester.
With some regret, I must report this was not a judgement on the management or the positioning of the would-be bank. Rather, A&L was high on our list of likely bid targets.
Bid rumours have

Bid rumouts have surrounded Norwich Union as well, as I mentioned before. Policyholders will receive the opportunity to apply for more shares as Norwich Union broadens its capital base.

Gearing up on your free holding might just be a way of speculating at relatively low risk, particularly as the consolidation of the life assurance industry still has a long way to go.

Life assurance is not a natural sector to select for prosperity under a Labour overnment, though. nvestment returns may be held down, particularly if ACT changes are introduced. New Labour has indicated it would move tougher regulatory system. Consolidating the selfregulatory organisations into a single governmental body may be the route it takes. Such a move would have its fair share of supporters, many from within the

industry.

But it is hard to see that such an approach will make easier the business of selling life assurance products, or reduce the cost burden of complying with regulation.

Of course, the 27 per cent of Alliance & Leicester depositors and savers are delivering an important message to the market – which is nothing to do with their view of the society. It is estimated that this wave of demutualisations will be an even bigger boost to private share ownership than the

privatisations of the mid-

1980s.

The number of people owning individual shares will increase significantly because they will receive them free of charge and without needing to take action.

to take action.

Privatisations were
altogether more pro-active,
needing a cheque to be
written and a form to be
completed.

completed.

But if a fair chunk of these new capitalists are deciding to turn their windfall into ready cash, we might see a surge in consumer spending equivalent to that spurred on the housing boom of the 1980s. Moreover, it would be achieved without the increase in borrowing this earlier profligate period produced. Quite where consumers might distribute their largesse is far from clear, but many expect the holiday trade to be a beneficiary, while home improvements could be in for a boost too.

for a boost too.

It might mean that, after this election, we have to look beyond the traditional beneficiaries of building and construction likely to benefit from a higher spending Labour administration.

For myself, I am taking the view that the way ahead is still far from clear. Witness the gyrations in the US. where the Dow took a hit of close to 150 points one day and, within a week, returned to an even higher level, recording the biggest oneday rise since the dead-cat bounce of October 1987. (Dead-cat bounces, by the way, are what happens when a bear market produces a rally and sucks in those who believe the bad news is all over. There is still no evidence that a bear market

has started in the US.)

Caution aside, there are still buying opportunities, but I prefer to restrict myself to smaller companies just at present.

An expection might be

An exception might be
Glaxo Wellcome, where the
new hepatitis drug,
lamivudine, has returned
spectacular results in clinica
trials. This is the same drug
already in use for Aids
sufferers, known as Epivir,
and is one of range of new
products Glaxo is bringing
on stream.

The shares yield better than the market average and look a good bet for longterm private client portfolios.

Returning to smaller companies, experience suggests these are less likely to be affected by short-term market gyrations, although values can be decimated in a panic – as we saw in 1987. Trawling the bottom end of the Stock Exchange list has always been fun.

Perhaps-I will return there next week. Brian R Tora is the chairman of the Greig Middleton Investment Strategy Committee Tel: 0171-392 4000



loose change

Scotlife Home Loans is launching a mortgage with 2 per cent off the standard variable rate (currently 7.24 per cent) for the first three years, a £500 cashback following completion and a further £1,000 cashback in December 1999, A reservation fee of £250 is required plus a £295 arrangement fee which can be added to the loan. There is a penalty for redemption in the first five years, but no compulsory insurance. The discount is reduced to 1.5 per cent for loans under £60,000. Cail 0131-456-7128 for details,

Nationwide BS is offering a new range of mortgages including a choice of a 2.6 per cent discount for two years off the standard variable rate (which is currently 6.99 per cent), a 1.5 per cent discount for five years, and a seven-year fixed rate of 8.29 per cent, all on up to 90 per cent loans to value. An arrangement fee of £295 and Nationwide buildings and contents insurance are required.

Bupa is going nationwide

presently only available to its private medical insurance holders in the Reading area. The service, designed for

with its out-of-hours service

policyholders who find it hard to reach a surgery in working hours, allows them to phone a doctor between 7pm and 10pm on weekdays, visit a doctor or have a home visit free of charge.

A 24-hour call-out service

A 24-hour call-out service is available at £30 a visit and a free telephone advice service for £6 a month.

AA Insurance's latest survey's shows average buildings insurance premiums are down 10 per cent over 12 months but up 1.5 per cent over three months.

Contents policies are down 7 per cent over a year but up 1.4 per cent over the last quarter, while comprehensive car cover is 3.8 per cent higher than it was a year ago and 3.9 per cent up on the last quarter.

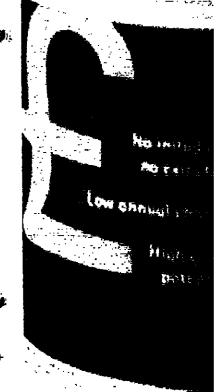
The changes include the rise in insurance premium tax from 2.5 per cent to 4 per cent this month.

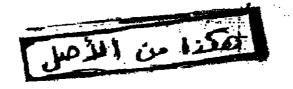
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Recipes for windfall shareholders Mutual benefits: Clifford German on

the latest offers

indfalls are everyone's favourite fruit this year, and after a slow start there is now a crowd of providers offering you a home for your windfalls whether you decide to sell them for cash or keep them in the form of shares. By the end of the summer 13 million people will have received an estimated f22bn worth of cash or shares from Halifax, Woolwich, Northern Rock, Alliance & Leicester and Bristol & West building societies, and from Norwich Union, Scottish Amicable and Colonial Mutual insurance companies, and who knows what other takeovers and conversions will be taking their place in the pipeline.

Not all of them will go out and spend the money, however, and several other building societies are offering deals deliberately angled at investors who want to cash their windfalls. If you only want to tie your money up for a year Coventry Building Society is offering a Fixed Rate Option Bond paying 6.7 per cent gross until the end of June next year on a minimum investment of £1,000. The bond also makes you a member of the society, in case of a takeover bid! Bristol & West is offering 7.05 per cent gross on a similar sum fixed until mid-July 1998, but Bristol & West has already sold out to the Bank of Ireland.

On Monday, Market Harborough Building Society is offering an escalator bond paying 7 per cent gross in the first year, rising to 7.5 per cent in year two and 8.25 per cent in year three on sums of £1,000 upwards. This one does qualify investors as members entitled to a windfall in the event of

Yorkshire Building Society, another committed mutual, is offering 7.25 per cent gross fixed until the end of 1998 on its new Mutual Benefit Bond, that also qualifies as a membership account. The minimum investment is £5,000. The Staffordshire Building Society is offering 7.3 per cent gross paid yearly and fixed until April 2000, or 7.05 per cent for investors who want a monthly income. The minimum investment is only £2,500 and it also conveys membership status.



These fixed-rate offers make conventional building society deposit rates look distinctly feeble, although investors must remember the rates are fixed at a time when variable rates are likely

Investors who think variable rates will rise variable rate of 3.05 per cent on a minimum of £1,000 and 3.35 per cent on £5,000 upwards and offers a free share-dealing service if a minimum of £2,500 is invested.

Rising interest rates may persuade more windfall shareholders to sell their shares once they have

seen what they are worth when actual dealings begin. Half the Alliance & Leicester members asked for their share certificates to be sent to them, imum of £7.50 each quarter for the privilege of which will give them the option of selling their shares any time after the start of dealing next week. They will have missed the chance to sell them free sharply and soon might prefer Birmingham & of charge but they will at least know the price they Midshires' new Windfall Account, which offers a will get when they do sell, and that could be worth

> Once again there are special offers to look out for. If you do decide to sell in the market shortly Skipton Building Society will sell them for you over the phone for a fee of £15 fixed until the end of May. The ShareCentre will hold them for you and

watching the market and selling as soon as the shares reach your chosen target

Many windfall holders will simply keep the shares they get and forget about them. That presumably is what the 500,000 Alliance & Leicester members who chose to have their shares put into an Alliance &Leicester holding account intended to do.

One certainly hopes so, because it will now cost subsequently decide to sell or put the shares in part of your annual PEP altowance.

a tax-free personal equity plan (PEP). They might even have a problem getting the share certificate now within the 42-day deadline for putting shares into a PEP without incurring dealing

But those who want to maximise their tax advantages should consider putting their windfalls into a PEP. Investors who are lucky enough to crystallise capital gains in excess of £6,400 this tax year would be well advised to put there windfalls into a PEP simply so they can sell them free of capital gains tax.

Once again the ShareCentre is offering a special "PEP and sell" deal, priced at £12.50 plus their normal sale commission of 1 per cent (minimum charge £7.50)

If you do want to PEP and keep your windfall shares this summer, there is plenty of choice. After a slow start at least a dozen PEP providers will welcome you and your shares with open arms. Our table shows the ones which will allow you to transfer your windfall shares free of charge into a PEP, and also what they will charge you to keep them

Some charge a collection fee to cash the dividends for you, which can turn out quite expensive if you have a PEP with several different shares, each paying two modest dividends a year. Others charge a flat fee per company in the plan, and most charge a dealing fee if you want to buy or sell shares within the PEP.

Four managers, Barclays, NatWest, Perpetual and Save & Prosper will take windfall shares into self-select PEPs. A number of investment trust management companies, Fidelity, John Govett, Mercury, Perpetual and Schroders, will take windfall shares into a PEP free of charge and allow holders to keep them. One advantage of doing this is that the value of Pepped windfalls does not count towards your annual PEP allowance.

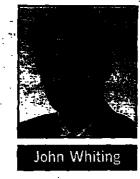
Another 20 unit trust managers, including Barclays Unicorn, Britannia, Hill Samuel, Legal & General, Pearl, Prolific and Schroders, will take in windfall shares but they require windfall holders to sell their shares and buy units instead.

This category includes Virgin, which will take windfall shares free of charges into both PEP and pension plans, and hold them for up to a year before they have to be converted into units. The them £10 to get the actual share certificate if they value of swapped shares does, however, count as

Process now – and cheque later – is the powerful taxman's new motto

the new self-assessment system. Despite the penalties that I mentioned (or perhaps because of them) some people may have looked at the article - or their tax return - and thought, "How do they find out?" or "What happens to the return when I send it in?" So what are the Revenuc's new powers?

We have to assume you submit a return – if you don't, the Revenue can estimate your liability and they have no incentive to guess low! Your return is fed



into the jaws of the Revenue's computer to go through what they term process now, check later". The forms have been

checks are only one of the terrors in store as we are asked to assess ourselves

designed to make it easy for the Revenue to run simple computer checks on all forms. It will correct minor errors, a process called amending the return. This covers an arithmetic error on your tax return, or entering figures in the wrong box. The Revenue basically has

up to nine months after the 31 January filing deadline to make such amendments. These may be in the taxpayer's favour. But if it does result in extra tax becoming due, there will be interest from the date it should have been paid,

normally 31 January.
The "check later" will be a second stage and in most cases won't happen. But if there is something which prompts a concern on the Revenue's part, an inquiry may be launched. The sort of thing the Revenue will be looking for is omitted income or deliberate errors in the taxpayer's favour. (Yes, it will spot your using 4 instead of 40 per cent in computing the tax due if you go down the route of

Tax: Random working out your own bill!) inspector will issue a notice Revenue lays great stress on their Code of Practice on the review being reasonable and fair, not a witch-hunt - and it is an inquiry, not an audit Those with American friends may know how US citizens fear an Internal Revenue Service audit – it ranks second only to cancer in the

> Taxpayers will be given formal notice of an inquiry, but will not be told why their affairs have been selected for review. The notice must generally be given within 12 months of the 31 January filing deadline. The investigation may focus on particular aspects of the taxpayer's affairs or may be more comprehensive.

American worry league!

The Revenue has wide powers to call for documents or other particulars it thinks necessary to decide whether the return is complete. There are penalties if someone cannot, or refuses to, produce them, though these are likely to be imposed only in cases of persistent failure

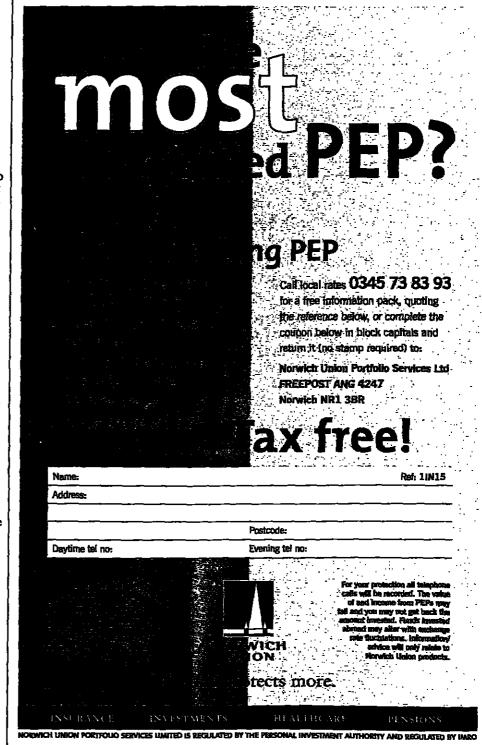
or deliberate obstruction. The records must be reasonably required for the purposes of the audit. Appeals are possible if the Revenue is being unreasonable. Likewise, the independent Tax Commissioners can be asked to bring an investigation to a close if the taxpayer believes an inspector is pursuing an enquiry without having reasonable grounds. In due course, the

to signal the close of the inquiry, which will

incorporate conclusions as to the amount of additional tax (if any) the investigation has shown to be due. Additional tax will attract interest, and may also attract a penalty of up to the amount of the tax

Perhaps the most controversial aspect about the Revenue's activities in this area is its new power to select cases for inquiry at random. We have to accept that random inquiries are part of proving the integrity of the system, But there is nevertheless a genuine concern that totally innocent taxpayers may be put to the worry and expense of having to prove a negative - ie that they have omitted nothing at all from their return. There is no tax deduction for any fees incurred in defending a position, despite pressure from official bodies.

The advice must be to take care over the preparation of the tax return. Make sure it is complete and correct. Get reliable professional help if necessary and keep supporting records safe in case they are needed later. But it is a sobering thought that if the Inland Revenue select only a few thousand returns each year (they are talking about 7,500) using their random selection powers, you have a far better chance of being subjected to a Revenue investigation than of winning the lottery!



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Stand by for dearer cash

Top priority for next chancellor, Clifford German comments

he future course of interest rates after the election is more important to investors than income tax rates. That is not too difficult to work out of course, after the two main parties both committed themselves not to increase either the top rate of tax or the basic rate.

If Labour is elected Gordon Brown might like to raise other taxes as well as impose the windfall tax in his promised interim budget in June. Many City economists think he should. But it would be difficult and dangerous to raise both taxes and interest rates so soon after an election. That means a bigger rise in interest rates is more probable to forestall

inflationary pressures. Higher interest rates are not a complete substitute for higher tax revenues, but they work in the same direction. The question is really how big will the increase be, how far will rates rise before they peak, and what impact will increases have on the UK economy, on sterling, shares and property prices?

We were last in this economic neck of the woods in the late Eighties. Nigel Lawson after cutting taxes in 1987 to secure his place in history as a reforming Chancellor also decided to cut interest rates to try to hold down sterling. The economy lurched into an inflationary boom, the Chancellor was forced to push base rates up again to 15 per cent, and his successor John Major then pegged the pound against European currencies at an unsustainably high rate, while the economy fell back

into a slump in 1990. John Major says he still bears the scars. The next Chancellor is unlikely to make that mistake again. Interest rates are certain to rise even if Eddie George is no longer there to nag.

But there is a real risk that a small rise in interest rates next month would have the worst of both worlds. It would undermine shares and send mortgage rates upward, and it could also persuade currency speculators that they could dictate policy and force the pound and interest rates steadily higher. Much of the rise in sterling over the past nine months has been based on the assumption the Government will be forced reluctantly to

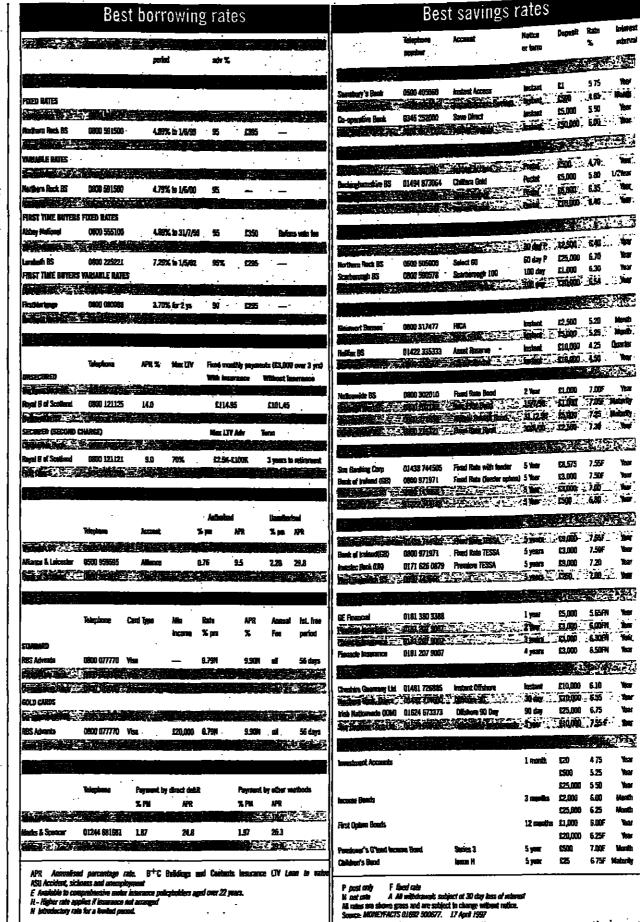
raise interest rates. Resisting speculative

pressure head-on is not a sensible policy especially when there are strong domestic reasons to raise rates anyway. The trick is to wrong-foot speculators by the size or timing of policy moves. There is a good case for the Chancellor to put rates up substantially, to 7 or even 7.5 per cent, to demonstrate his intention of take tough decisions while the need for them can plausibly be blamed on his predecessors, and simultaneously knock inflation on the head and cheat the speculators.

Arguably, once there was nothing more for speculators to go for, sterling could start to drift back to a more realistic rates against the dollar and European currencies. If that happened the export sector of the economy would feel more confident and shares could rally after the initial shock. The logic of this analysis

as far as private investors are concerned is to fix mortgage rates now for two to three years ahead (five years is too long), but not to commit savings for too far ahead. There are some attractive rates available, up to 7.05 per cent a year for savers who have £1,000 to invest, 7.25 per cent if you have £5,000. But there could be better offers still by mid-

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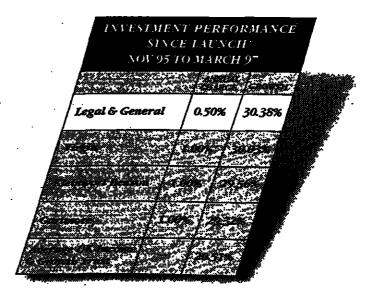
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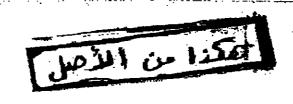
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صكدا من الأصل

Useful brollies for inevitable rainy days

Abigail Montrose offers advice for stretching your money in a special two-page report

ome habits are hard to Streak, but that is not always a bad thing. Saving is a prime example the sooner you start the easier it is, and soon you don't even notice. Adopting a savings

strategy is a good idea. By deciding what you are saving for it not only gives you something to work towards, hut makes it easier to choose the right vehicle for your

Whatever you want to save for, the first thing to do is build up an emergency fund. This should be a minimum of three mouths' income and should be easy to get at, such as in an instant access savings account.

This money can then act as a cushion to tide you over in any emergency. So if an unexpected bill does land on your doormat, you do not have to cash in any of your investments or lose interest on your long-term savings.

Once you have built up your emergency fund, you can then look to save for specific items or events.

If you are saving for the short-term, such as a holiday or Christmas, then realistically your only option is a savings account. In general, accounts

which require you to give some notice before withdrawing your money tend to pay higher rates of interest. Similarly, postal accounts tend to pay better rates of interest than branchbased savings accounts.

There are some notable exceptions, such as the recently formed Sainsbury's Bank instant access account. This is paying an impressive flat rate of 5.75 per cent interest on balances of £1 upwards, which is more than many accounts pay on sixfigure balances. But what's good today may not be so impressive in six months time, so savers need to regularly check the rates of interest they are earning on

their savings. For those looking to save regularly for the next couple of years, perhaps to

build up enough money to pay for a car, a wedding or a house deposit, a number of building societies and high street banks offer regular savings schemes with enhanced rates of

If you are saving for the medium term (five years or more), whether it's to help fund your children through university or to turn your own dreams into reality with a Harley Davidson, you can start to look at taxexempt accounts (Tessas) and stock market investment schemes.

You have to keep a Tessa for five years to receive all the interest on your savings tax free. Tessas pay the best rates of interest among savings accounts, but the maximum you can save is £9,000 over the five year period. Useful to a student, and well on the way to a

If you can lock your money away for five years, many institutions offer fixedterm savings bonds at attractive rates. Many of these have tiered interest rates - the more you invest, the higher the rate.

Stock market investments have always produced better long-term returns than savings accounts - but their value will fluctuate in line with market moves and company performance, so it would not be wise to put all your money here.

If you need cash in hurry when the market is doing badly, you will not make as much as you hoped - and if the market really nose-dived, you could even get back less than you

originally invested. Unless you have a large sum to invest - in which case the person to see is probably a stockbroker or independent financial adviser - most people will opt for unit trusts or ...

to invest in a unit trust is through a personal equity plan (PEP) which means that all the money you make is



Turn 2000 in style

Millennium: Abigail Montrose raises a glass in anticipation

December 1999? Wherever you plan to see in the new millennium it's almost certain you'll want to do so with a glass of something special in your hand at the party of a lifetime. And if you will have to pay the bill, now is the

time to start saving for it.

If you put £50 a month under the mattress from now until December 1999 you would have £1,650 to celebrate with. Better still, put the money into a savings account - and look around for the best deal.

Some accounts pay as little as 0.5 per cent or less interest, which means your savings, after tax, would grow by just £10.41 to £1.660.41 by December 1999. Whereas if you save in one of the best-paying accounts, such as the new Sainsbury's Bank's instant your savings would grow by £122.58 to £1,772.58. Assuming, of course, the rate of

interest remains unchanged. To save for the big day, your choice is limited to savings accounts. If you were looking to save for five years or more you could consider investing in shares, but with party time less than three years away, this is not advisable.

As Ian Millward, investment marketing director at investment trusts. independent financial advisers The most tax-efficient way Chase de Vere, points out: "Less than three years is too short a time-scale to invest in equities - particularly as that is the longest amount of time any of your money would be check yours every six months

here will you be on invested. If the market crashed in late 1999 you could end up eating cheese and crackers at

your millennium party!"

There are several types of account on offer, and notice accounts tend to pay higher rates. For example, Sun Banking pays 3.75 per cent interest on its instant access account, but 4.75 per cent on its 60-day notice account. The only problem with a long notice period

to make it is still competitive. If not, move elsewhere.

get 1 per cent on savings up to £500, you may get 4 per cent on balances over this amount.

If several of you are planning to split the bill for the party of a lifetime it's worth considering Direct Line's instant access accounts, which allow investors to operate is that you cannot move savlinked accounts in which the

By December 1999, £50 a month put under a mattress would total £1,650 7

ings as swiftly as you may want totals are added together to to without a loss of interest. count towards higher rates of Savings accounts operated by post or telephone also tend per cent interest on balances per cent on a balance of £20 to offer savers better rates up to £5,000 and 5 per cent on and 5.25 per cent on £500

than branch-based accounts. balances up to £10,000. For example, Cheltenham & cent interest on its instant set amount each month for a earn any interest, you could access postal account, and 5.5 minimum of at least two or win one of Ernie's prizes. per cent on its 30-day notice postal account.

Cheltenham & Gloucester will allow you to open a savings account with as little as £1, others are less accommodating. During the past year building societies have increased the opening balances on their savings accounts to £100, £500 or even £1,000. This is to stop potential carpetbaggers.

Banks and building societies change their rates so

erally to one or two each year. Rates of interest are often tiered, so while you may only Some regular savings accounts, such as Bradford &

Bingley's, require you to save for at least three years if you are to receive its enhanced rate of interest of 6.5 per cent. Others require you to save for a minimum of two years or less, such as West Bromwich which

is paying 6.76 per cent, and Scarborough and Nationwide

And don't forget National Savings, which offers two savings accounts. The ordinary account provides instant access and pays 2.5 per cent on balances of £500 or more once the account has been open for at least one year, the investment account is a 30-day interest. The account pays 4.5 notice account which pays 4.75

three years, and the number of

withdrawals is limited - gen-

which both are paying 6.5 per

Many building societies If you are prepared to take Gloucester pays 1 per cent offer regular savings accounts a bit of a gamble, of course, interest on its branch-based with enhanced rates of interinstant access account, 4 per est. Typically, you must save a Bonds. While you would not

Women leave risks to men

Know-how: Sadly lacking

omen are more averse to risk than Y men in their savings and investments, according to new research by NOP. Only 12 per cent of women said they would consider an investment in which they risked a loss - compared

with 32 per cent of men. The poll, on behalf of Hill Samuel Asset Management, is one of two pieces of research that underline the huge gap between the risks and rewards of investment and the public perception of

As Rob Page, Hill Samuel's marketing director, put it: "These statistics clearly demonstrate the investment industry is failing to reach the mass market and convince the man in the street that stock market investment is a sensible option."

Andrew Buley, investment marketing manager at the TSB, which commissioned the other survey, was even more blunt: "It is clear from our findings that, for many people, savings remain a

In the Hill Samuel poll, NOP asked people how much £1,000 invested in a typical unit trust would be worth after 10 years: 29 per cent did not know, while a further 31 per cent thought it would have grown to only

Only 14 per cent thought that they would at least double their money over a decade.

In fact an investment of £1,000 in the average UK equity income trust would have turned £1,000 into £3,003 over the 10 years to last December.

There is also little knowledge of the stock market, with 55 per cent of respondents believing that the UK lower than it started at least four times since 1980. In fact it has only happened twice in 1990 and 1994. Even though inflation is

still worries savers: 49 per cent of respondents said it was still a significant factor in their savings and investment plans. Investors aversion to risk

lower than for 20 years, it

was not based on personal experience. Only 12 per cent of women and 27 per cent of men had made an investment that resulted in a loss.

The findings of the Hill Samuel survey are underlined by the other piece of recent research, also undertaken by NOP which is bound to raise questions among fund managers about the effectiveness of their marketing activities.

Banks and fund managers spend millions promoting their products every year, making extensive use of direct mail - but despite this extensive advertising only 27 per cent could correctly identify a PEP (personal equity plan) - although a further 7 per cent knew it was some kind of tax-exempt investment and a similar number said that it was simply a savings or investment plan.

Only 44 per cent of those questioned in this poll knew what a Tessa was (tax-exempt special savings account), the same number as the don't

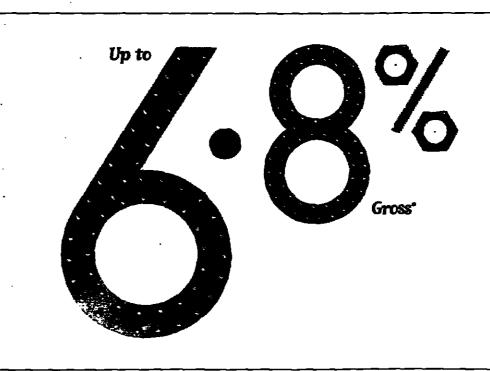
Only half the sample thought that they were getting the best out of their savings; asked why they had not, in that case, made changes, 24 per cent said they did not have time, but 25 per cent said that savings information was presented in

a complicated way. For the Hill Samuel survey, NOP interviewed 938 adults by telephone during February and March.

The TSB survey, also by telephone, covered 1,006 respondents during March. To help people make more

of their savings TSB has produced a Money and Savings Guide, available free from 0500 758 4000.

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Worst performing

growth over five years

Elect to spread the risk

Trusts: Tony Lyons on how small investors can best manage their own portfolios



ing in stocks and shares than in any other type of investment. Over the long term, five years and more, equity investment, directly or indirectly through unit or investment trusts, has produced much better returns than savings in building society or other fixed interest accounts.

But general elections can create uncertainties in the stock market. At least that is what the fund management groups would like ordinary investors and savers to think. The financial pages of newspapers and magazines are full of advertisements extolling the virtues of various savings schemes that will, they claim, offer greater protection against the political uncertainties that lie ahead.

Yet in the broad sweep of things, changes in government have only a shortterm effect on stock market sentiment in

rdinary savers have made more this country in regard to equity investment. In the long term, the effect is minimal. The performance of an open stock market such as London depends on world-wide economic trends. Share prices over the long term move in line with global trends, particularly interest rate movements and the future prospects for company growth.

Unless you are a full-time investor. putting all your money into just one or two shares leaves you open to an unnecessary degree of risk.

Normally, you will need investment advice from a stockbroker which comes at a price, and if the performance of one or more of the stocks turns sour, then you will face serious losses.

Growing numbers of people are now managing their own portfolios - often using a PC and a modern to download data from the Internet - or through an

Top performing unit trusts

%growth over 5 years HSBC Hong Kong Growth Mercury Gold & General 238.0 Jupiter Income 236.8 Hill Samuel UK Emerging Cos. 230.0 GT Orient Accumulator Gartmore Amer Emerging Growth 225.1 Prolific Technology Jupiter European 210.6 -207.4 Old Mutual European Jupiter UK Growth 207:3

Worst performing unit trusts %growth over five years

Govett FOF Japan Index	-5.9
S&P Japan Small Cos	-10.5
M&G Japan & General Acc	-10.8
Barclays Unicom Japan Inc	-14.5
Fidelity Japan Smaller Cos	-16.2
Friends Prov Japanese Small Cos	-19.2
	-20.7
	-26.6
Govett FOF UK Bear	-36.8
Govett FOF US Bear	-37.1

taken by those which have done badly in the past.

Stock market investments can go down as well as up...

GT UK Growth Inc. Thornton UK Small Cos Dividend OM AMR British Growth Inc. Equitable Smaller Cost 3 Exeter High Income

Although past performance is no certain guide to the future, it is more likely that good periodices will maintain their records than that they will be over-

Equitable Special Situations City Financial J Siddall I&G Calculations based on offer to bid price and assume that all het income is reinvested.

Edinburgh Java Baillie Gifford Japan Korea-Europe ANVESCO Korea Baillie Gifford Shin Nippon Korea Liberalisation

Source: HSW (01625 511311)

Note that not all the funds shown among the top performers offer monthly savings plans

But for most savers it makes more sense to invest in a collective investment such as unit or investment trusts, or open-ended investment companies when they become available later this year.

portfolio of companies. Of course, unit prices can go down. But by investing in a diversified basket of equities, you will have spread your risks so that if one of the companies in the portfolio goes belly-up, it will not have too great an

fluence on the rest of the fund. Since John Major won the 1992 election, the FTSE 100 index has doubled in value. Over the span of his government, most investors in unit and investment trusts have done well.

The tables show the best- and worstperforming funds in this time. Many are specialist funds in smaller companies, particular countries or, in the case of investment trusts, have large international

portfolios, so the top and bottom funds investing in the UK are also shown.

There are more than 1,000 unit trusts and investment trusts to choose from and insurance companies also offer hundreds These offer the saver a stake in a large of unitised insurance funds. Some of these are riskier than others, although still less so than investing in individual shares. Past performance can provide a guide.

As a rule of thumb, investments with lowest risk are those in cash or near-cashfunds - but these are unlikely to show any ong-term growth. Next in line are the Index trackers, followed by general, balanced funds investing internationally or just in Britain. Highest-risk are those specialising in particular countries or sectors such as healthcare. While these may do spectacularly well, they can also fall out of favour rapidly, so a careful watch must be kept on them at all times...

In this context it is worth noting how

Japanese industry may lead the way in efficiency and technology, the Tokyo stock market has slumped at a time when other large markets have soared - and foreign investors have also suffered from

adverse exchange rate movements. It is difficult to know if the performance of some of the top funds is due to the investment ethos of the management group or if it is down to the share-picking qualities of individual fund man-

Smaller groups often have to depend on the investment qualities of just one or two managers. If they leave to join another investment stable, performance can suffer dramatically.

Recently, one of the managers who made the Finsbury Trust stable of investment trusts a leading performer has moved to a rival group and it will be intermany funds invested in Japan show up esting to see what happens to the per-

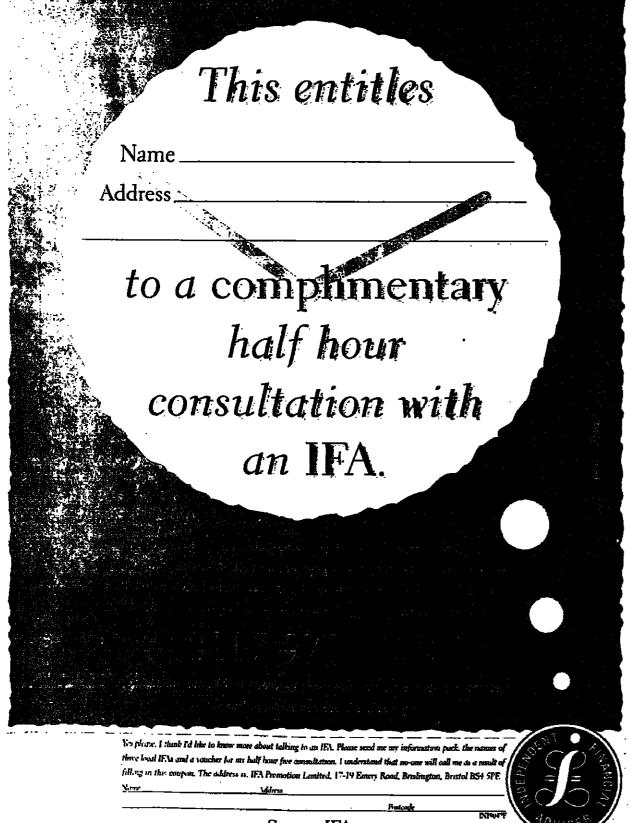
among the poor performers. For while formance of these funds. Over the long term some groups do appear to do better than others.

A recent survey of consistent long-term performance by What Investment? magazine showed that consistent good performers include Schroders, M&G, Gart-more and Fidelity. Over recent years. these have been joined by others such as Perpetual, Crédit Suisse, Jupiter, Provident Mutual, Capel-Cure Myers, Britannia and Martin Currie.

This is not to say that these groups do not have a poor performer or two in their investment stable. Rather, overall, they have more funds in the top 25 per cent of the various sectors and appear to do consistently better than their competitors.

To outperform means taking a risk. For every successful investment there are many failures. So it will pay to remember that high-risk investments can seriously

Thought for the day



It is an ill windfall...

PEPs: Ken Welsby and Tony Lyons on how to blow £20bn

ollowing in the wake Leicester and the Colonial Mutual, the coming months will see some 20 million people become shareholders in the building societies and life offices converting to plc status. Of these, around half will own shares for the first time.

will be distributed in free shares. Biggest of all will be the Halifax which demutualises in June which will be one of the largest companies in the FTSE 100 with an expected value in excess of £12bn.

Altogether, some £20bn

While many will decide to sell their shares immediately, holding on could prove more sensible. The precedent of Abbey National - which joined the stock market in 1989 – shows the benefits of not selling windfall shares right away. Since its flotation the price of its shares has climbed from the initial 130p to around 790p today. So anyone who had £1,000 worth of shares in the company when it converted would now have a holding worth almost £6,080 today - in addition to

a dividend every year. Even better, if you put your windfall shares into a PEP all the income and capital gains are tax-free.

Although people often talk about investing in a PEP, strictly speaking you can't: a PEP is simply a tax-free wrapper that contains other investments - including shares and unit trusts.

There are hundreds of different PEPs to choose from - from banks, fund managers and stockbrokers, as well as the converting mutuals themselves. But to make sure you make the most of your windfall shares it's worth doing some homework before making a decision.

To comply with Inland Revenue rules, you must have completed the transfer into the PEP within 42 days from the date on which the shares are issued - which will be some days before the date on which you receive the

There are two main types of plan: general and singlecompany. To qualify for taxfree status, general PEPs can hold shares worth up to £6,000 in many companies, and put a further £3,000 in a single-company plan.
These are annual figures.

You can invest in one of each

type of PEP each tax year -

every year. So if you are in

line for free shares from more than one company it makes sense to put them in a general PEP. Remember that, since your free shares cost . nothing, they don't count towards the £6,000 limit. You can consider using them as the foundations of a tax-free

market portfolio, by adding a

lump sum, or through a monthly savings plan.
The building societies that are converting have their own plans, but these may not offer the best deal because they will only accept their own shares. As Clifford German reports on page 27, more fund managers are announcing their windfall plans every week - so, unless you are an Alliance & Leicester investor, it may be sensible to watch develop-

In this context there is one last rule to remember: you can only have one PEP manager. So if you want to hold on to the shares through a PEP, check that the plan manager is an investment group that will let you retain them, rather than simply taking them into their fund in exchange for units. Not all the windfall PEP

ments, but make no final

decisions until May-end.

arrangements are simple. Some schemes have complex rules so it is worth taking time to study the small print It sounds more complicated than it is. But you should

follow a few simple rules:

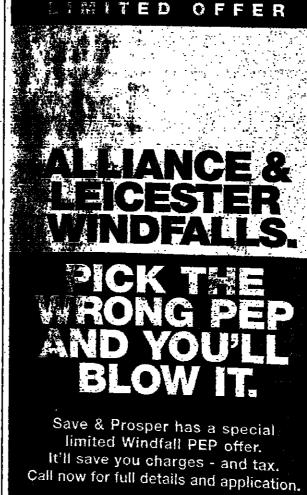
Send for information from several fund management groups which advertise special windfall

arrangements and read the literature they send - and if you are not sure on any point, telephone them and ask. (Many funds have free

or low-cost numbers.) Bear in mind that although a fund's past record is not a certain guide to the

future, good performers are more likely to continue doing well than the also-rans

are to overtake them. ☐ Don't put all your eggs in one basket. Share prices fluctuate - and if you need cash you could be forced to sell at the wrong time.



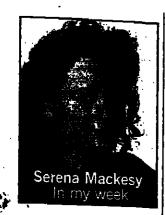
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stealth,

Groups form a dozen or more bad haircuts crowding up to the glass to pull faces at us, take photos. point, fall about laughing

white lace Dolce and about laughing Gabbana shirt, sunglasses primed against the light which streams through the plate glass. One arm behind his head and his

feet propped on the edge of a red wooden bowl filled with copies of The Face, his copy of Macbeth is tucked down to the side of his thigh, out of sight. He's been learning the dagger speech ready for the new term at the Guildhall "People," he says, "get really fascinated when you're kipping.

They form really big knots then. They don't feel like you're looking back at them." People are forming knots as he speaks. We are sitting in the window of Selfridges being living mannequins, so to some extent we are asking for it. There was this guy," says Neil, "when I was in here with Lucille one afternoon. He sat down on the bench opposite the window for about an hour, just glaring at us. And then he got up and started banging on the

window, trying to get Lucille's attention. He was going "You shouldn't be with that guy! He's mad! You should be with a girl!". He drinks from a bottle of mineral water; it's equatorially hot and the sweat is pouring off us.

Oxford Street is a classic illustration of crowd psychology in action. As people pass us, they react by pretending they aren't. Nobody walks past a shop window and makes out that they're not looking at it in normal circumstances. But that's what they do: keep their faces pointed forward while straining from the corners of their eyes. Some stop once they get to the edge of the window, as if

them there. Others make a to seem directly interested. But everyone is unwilling to actually stop and gawp until someone else has given them a lead. When that happens,

eil reclines on a set up to the glass to pull faces shop floor, but has been of ethnic cushions in a at us, take photos, point, fall seconded for the week, pre-

animal in a zoo," says Neil.
"They do the weindest things, like coming up to the glass and tickling it at the level where your feet are, the way people try to get fish in aquariums to notice them." They resort to less subtle approaches, as well.



Some people stick with waving and grimacing; an aged hippy woman with hennaed hair starts writing messages to Neil on the window with her finger. She is, of course, writing backwards; he performs an elaborate French-

style shrug. She shrugs back.
Then the ugly boys arrive.
Three of them, in Umbro sweatshirts, on the platform of a No 98 bus. They point, and waggle their shoulders with ugly boy gracelessness. Then they jump off, and take turns to walk past the window clutching their crotches. I ignore them. They don't like this, and come back again, taking longer about it this time. Then they get frustrated. The fat one with the convinced that we can't see shaved head goes over to where Neil is sitting, pulls an ugly face couple of passes, burning up the and gobs on the window. They pavement in their frenzy not elbow each other in congratulation over this masterstroke of

Nicky climbs in over the backmore bad haircuts crowding side. She usually works on the dances away up the pavement.

sumably because she is so beau-"It really is like being an tiful. "It's weird how aggressive some people can get," she says.

"I was sitting with another girl, and this woman came along with a baby in a pushchair. She just stopped on the pavement and stood there screaming at us. We could hear her through the glass. She was going "Fuck off, fuck off you bitches" - she

kept it up for ages." Some software salesmen – we can tell they're software salesmen because they are wearing suits and polyester ties gather to imitate our hand movements and peer down my cleavage. As all women are aware, our secondary sexual characteristics are a source of endless fascination for the weaker sex; usually, though, they limit their activities to sneaking glances when they think your con-

centration is elsewhere.

The fact of one's being on

display removes this inhibition. Now the stares are full-on, with transfixed smiles of joy like a kid in a sweetshop. The funny thing is, rather than pulling the old "Excuse me, I'm up here" routine, I find that I don't really mind. It's all part of a day's work, after all.

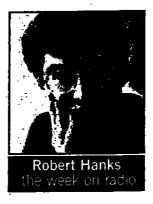
An old lady with crumpled red lipstick spends five minutes minutely examining every object on display, standing on tiptoes to peer into the bowl, bending down to look at the floor cushions, but never once directs a glance at any of us. A girl in black rushes up to the window, taps on it, and Nicky jumps to her feet.
"It's my best friend from when I was little!" she says, then shouts "Meet you in handbags!" and bounces over the backdrop like a young gazelle.
"Oh, look," says Neil. I turn

back to the street. A skinny man in jeans with shoulderwit, and lope lumpenly off. length grey hair stands in front "We'll have to get someone to of me, wagging his hips from side wash that off," says Neil mildly. to side like the serial killer in The Silence of the Lambs. He lifts up groups form, and quickly lose drop, dressed in party clothes, his Tshirt to give me a full-frontal their inhibitions: a dozen or and drops onto her burn on our of his nipples. Then, laughing, he

Lie back and think of elephant

e imagine that we are all blind when we listen to the radio that since there are no pictures to look at, a blind person and a sighted person are listening to Gardeners' Question Time or Simon Mayo on roughly equal terms. A few seconds thought suggests that this can't really be true, though. You can't really understand a blind person's experience of the world by shutting your eyes and groping your way around the house for 10 minutes: to be blind is not simply to have the pictures taken away, any more than radio is simply television with-

Touching the Elephant (Wednesday, Radio 4). Matt Thompson's feature borrowed its premise from the old Indian fable of the blind men disputing the nature of an elephant they've sort of snake; one gropes its leg and deduces it must be a



blind people with an elephant at London Zoo.

The most interesting part of the programme, and the part out the pictures - a point movingly demonstrated in it's easiest to talk about, was the initial interviews, when Kim Normanton asked the four what they expected from an elephant. All of them knew that it was big, and that it had a trunk; but after that their ideas diverged wildly. Danni knew that it would have big come across: one feels its ears, but imagined them standtrunk, and thinks it is some ingup, like an Alsatian's; Lauren, a 10-year-old with a vivid imagination, got pretty well all tree, and so forth. Taking this the details right until she was rather literally, *Touching the* asked how it would feel: furry, *Elephant* confronted four was her guess.

Tom, a piano-tuner with a bore that out, especially in the philosophical bent, got closest final encounters with the elefairly abstract terms: "You couldn't but be overwhelmed by the size of the thing, and and strangeness is for most of you would have to look up at us commonplace. This was it... You would have to be more touching than I would amazed and perhaps appalled have believed, by the trunk and the tusks... which must mean, I think, that it doesn't really have a face." Elephant enthusiasts may disagree, but I think this is not a bad way of describing the way so many incongruous features are pulled together on an elephant's head.

But the programme still illustrated an extraordinary gulf not so much between the sighted and the blind (especially those who have never seen, who have no visual memories to refer to). In the most obvious sense, it's a difference between the haves and the have-nots; but, without being sentimental or pretentious about it, the programme drew you to the view that it cuts both ways. Asked what she thought of sighted people, Danni said: "They it's like to grope your way

with a description couched in phant, when all four were excited, overjoyed even, at meeting a creature whose size

> Along the way, Tom mentioned that blind people have excellent memories, which he felt might give him something in common with the clephant. He didn't say whether, as popular myth has it, they can also tell when somebody is lying by the sound of his voice. Not that this talent would be much use today. The most depressing feature of the election campaign has been that politicians no longer bother lying: they simply fail to state anything substantial enough to be called the truth.

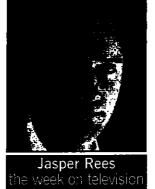
Listening to Today earlier this week, when John Humphrys was trying to get Michael Portillo to give a firm answer about his views on Europe, I had a sudden intuition that this must be what take things for granted quite around an elephant. Only a lot, in life." The programme much, much less fun.

Lights, camera, politicians

uring the 1992 election. everybody deplored the fact that the campaign was wholly conducted on the virtual stump of the television screen. This time round, we've all accepted the centrality of the small screen's role, and are far more exercised by the politicians' new addiction to negative campaigning. In 2002, that in turn will have become part of the electoral furniture, and we'll all get a lot more hot and bothered about some other novelty of the hustings: the television debate between the prime ministerial candidates. perhaps, that will surely come

to pass next time round.

there will be no debate between been no debate between anyone else. You only wish some candidate or other would own up to a cocaine babit, so that for a different sort of party line. But the cancellation of the leaders debate is mainly regret-table because we will never know the answer to the intriguing question of which monstrous ego would have had the satisfaction of chairing it. The channels would no doubt have had as much difficulty bartering over this one as the parties did their own differences. Our Dimbleby or yours? The patriian one or the squirty one? They might have had to go



for a compromise candidate inoffensive to all (as opposed to Jeremy Paxman, who is Tues. Wed and Thurs) with a refreshing disdain for the conventional solemnities of the a change we could all deplore job. On Monday's edition he advised panellists that negative debating techniques would be met with a blast from his klaxon. The camera gleefully caught an appalled Ann Widdicombe shaking her buffalo head in disgust.

Because the programme goes out at the witching hour, the normal rules of smooth presentation have been relaxed. Hanna fluffs his lines from the teleprompt, and reprimands others for telling jokes, on which he has granted

is thrillingly childish. Monday brought the surreal novelty of polemics. No one clapped. But Michael Mansfield, groovy old so-and-so that he is, visibly nodded his head to the beat. Hanna discounts himself

because he's too busy showboating to be a ruthless chair. With three male candidates, political correctness deems that the referee ought to have been a woman. Which one, though? Sheena MacDonald, It's only appropriate that offensive to all). Someone like the only Celtic candidate who Vincent Hanna. He has been isn't called Kirsty, took over mundanity, Ashdown's antithe party leaders, as there has chairing some editions of from Hanna on Wednesday Around Midnight (C4, Mon, and Thursday and, with more kept better order. Over on ITV 500 (TTV, Mon), in front of the big-headed constituents of Basildon, Sue Lawley ruled the three men who would be Chancellor with a rod of iron. So much so that poor little Alan Beith was granted embarrassingly few chances to say his piece. Lawley last interviewed politicians about policy on Nationwide, when Labour were previously in power. You can see why she's moved on to the more intimate business of shamelessly grilling people like

Gordon Brown about their

himself a monopoly, while Discs. The iron rod was much of the verbal swordplay deployed with a certain shrillness. Whenever she raised her voice, it shot up an octave. If Billy Bragg, having offered his she'd got any shriller, her thoughts to the panel in Black Country accent, ruthspeech, singing in the com-mercial break with one of his self-advancement like most of the Labour Party's articles of faith, might have spontaneously disinterred itself. As New Labour are going to win, maybe New Lawley should have won too.

On the extra edition of Newsnight (BBC2, Sat), Harry Enfield's spoof party political broadcasts even-handedly highlighted the absurdities of all three candidates: Blair's beatific rictus, Major's heartbreaking quated, pre-decimal vocabulary. (One benefit of joining the would once and for all end up down the toilet where it has been figuratively spent all these years.) The real thing from Labour (all channels, Tues) brought home how stupid and suggestible politicians think voters are. But one by-product of television's role as the conduit of the campaign is that the electorate is more media-literate than ever before, and will have found it much harder to fall for Blair's bulldog than they would have in 1979. It just left you thinking of a third syllable of which both "bull" and sexuality on Desert Island "dog" are frequently the prefix.

DAMEN HURTS.... and his painfully creative struggle Kerber Kerber ERM PASANDA ... YOU SOH NOTHING! KNOW HOW I'M ALWAYS / COME THAT I HAD MY BRAIN PIERCED. COME ON. YoU LEADING THE WAY IN KNOM 5 PRIOUSIY FASHION GOT SOMETHING COOL DAMEY MIND!

Whatever happened to? Anneka Rice

A new phenomenon hits our screens in 1982. Anneka Rice: blonde-haired, blue cyed, aged mid-20s. Not all that new then. But in a new format: via helicopter, scouring the country on behalf of two studio contestants to find a £1,000 prize. Treasure Hunt, a leading show in the new Channel 4's line-up has her as the "original high octane Heidi" (The Mail), in lurid stretch to-fit cat-suit running to get that prize.

And the position of the camera means we

always get a view of one part of her anatomy as it chases her. People want to get to the bottom of the question as to why she is always in the news. In 1986 she wins Miss Rear of the Year. Followed by more success with Television Personality of the Year in 1987. She then finds happiness with marriage to theatre-promoter Nick Allott in 1988.

Rice of passage
But after having a baby in 1989, she is delivers £500, 000 worth of aid to Malaw renovates an orphanage in Romania.

replaced on Treasure Hunt by Annabel Croft. She'd become, according to her Channel 4 commissioning editor, "rather

She hits back with Challenge Anneka in the same year, which instead of her running for clues against the clock has her building things and talking to people against the clock, as part of the BBC's drive down-market. She delivers £500, 000 worth of aid to Malawi and

But a survey by Esquire in August 1992 on the sexual preferences of middle-class men between the ages of 18 and 45 gives Patsy Kensit the top vote at 21 per cent, with Anneka a lowly five per cent.

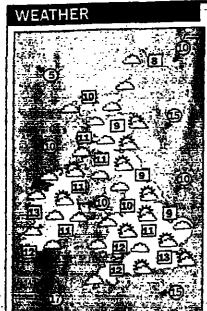
Stop the clock

Challenge Anneka is scrapped, with viewing figures down from 12 to 8 million in October 1993 and after A Holiday of a Lifetime ends too she buys a Cotswold

country cottage in 1994 for semi-retire-ment - "I just want some peace". But some consider her a national asset, Jane Gordon of *The Mail* suggests she get involved with bigger projects, including helping to speed up the building of the British Library.

Today echoes another view - that "what people would really like to see is Anneka herself sent on a holiday of a lifetime. To

James Aufenast



General Summary and Outlook:

England and Wales will start cloudy, perhaps with a little rain over the hills in western areas. However, brighter weather in the east will spread westwards to most places leaving a fine afternoon with good sunny spells, although it will be rather cool. Western Scotland and Northern Ireland should also brighten up after a cloudy start with a much better chance of some decent sunshine this afternoon. Eastern Scotland will be rather cold but dry and bright with sunshine at times. Tomorrow, Northern Ireland and southern Scotland will be dry and bright, but northern Scotland will turn overcast with light rain later. Meanwhile, any early fog and frost will clear rapidly to leave a fine day over England

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WORLD WEATHER YESTERDAY, MIDDAY (GMT); c,cloudy; Liair; 1g,fog; hz,hazy; m,mist;

Landon. The Strand. Closed westcaster Place and Trafalgar Square Expect long delays in the area. Bristol, M5 J18-19. Contraflow in operation across the Avonmout Bridge with a 50mph speed limit. Reg-

Staffordshire, A50 Stoke-On-Trent West Yorkshire, M1 147. Major longterro-terro roadworks continu

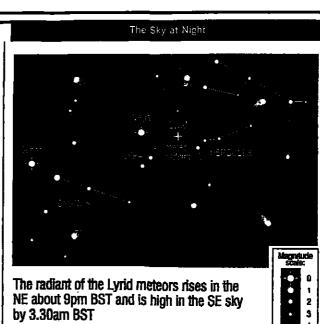
estrictions. Expect delays on the M1. M621 and Dewsbury Road. City of Edinburgh, MSJ2. Major roadworks, with lane closures on the oundebout at J2 (Newbridge Spur M9). Delays possible Bockinghamshire, M40 Jla-3. Long-

between Jia (M25) and J3 (Wycombe East). Surrey M25 J8-10. Various restrictions and lane docures both ways between Reigate and the A3 as major widening work continues.

term readworks with a contraflow

Out and about with AA Road-watch cal 0336 401 for the latest local and national baffle news. Source: The Automobile Association. Calls charged at 35p per min (chaep rate) 49p per min (all other times) ine VAI.

Moon rises 4:34pm Moon sets 4:44am Full Moon: April 22



In the week ahead, planet Earth ploughs through the stream of dusty debris left in space by the passage of Comet Thatcher. The consequence for sky watchers is the possible sighting of meteors belonging to the Lyrid shower. This is not normally: spectacular shower - perhaps 10 or 15 per hour at its peak, which is expected in the early hours of Tuesday the 22nd. It is, however, unpredictable, springing a surprise show of up to 10 times as many meteors on the odd occasion.

The radiant point between Lyra and Hercules rises over the north-east horizon around 9pm BST Best meteor prospects are after midnight and into the pre-dawn hours, though the glare of the full Moon makes conditions unfavourable for serious meteor counting this year. Comet Thatcher was discovered in 1861 and is not itself due to return again until 2275, but records of its legacy to our April skies date back more than 2000 years

Jacqueline Mitton

TODAY'S TELEVISION

Remember all those films which tried selling themselves as "this year's Four Weddings and a Funeral"? Well, now it's Trainspoining which is findings and a Funeral"? Well, now like a lucky charm. In the case of Twin Town, a rancous tale that we have a lucky charm. In the case of Twin Town, a rancous tale that we have the responsibility—ignorance is bliss perhaps—so relaxed, in fact, that the producer virtually sleeps on his of joy-riding and drug-taking in Swansea, it's "the Welsh Trainsporting" - enough to prejudice you against a movie before shoulder, much to Allen's chagrin. Oh well, at least he gets his revenge on older brother Keith for all those ritual humilit starts. Such brazen dressing up in another movie's success.

Shoot Out in Swansea: the Making of Twin Town (Sat BBC2) sounds like one of those behind-the scenes movie plugs iations of teenage boyhood - posing him half way up a windswept Welsh hillside with a sheep munching at his crutch.

that pad out ITV's weekend afternoon schedules. Happily it's In which situations, exactly, does Kenny Dalglish unclench not, rather it takes a candid look at the often fraught realities his teeth and start becoming expansive and voluble? I always imagined that whilst playing 18 holes with his famous chum, week shoot into six weeks with a first-time director at the Alan Hansen, Kenny would unwind, but that was before I saw wheel. This turns out to be Kevin Allen, brother of bad boy The Sack Race (Sat BBC2), Hansen's look at the pressures

"Don't worry, she won't bite," says the farmer. We won't ask.

Gerard Gilbert recommends Shoot Out in Swansea Sat 10.40pm BBC2 To the Ends of the Earth Sun 8pm C4

presence of cameras, but, gently quizzed by his mate on the lairways of some north-eastern golf course, Dalglish is as tightlipped as at a post-defeat match conference.

Not that any of the managers we see in action in the half-

time dressing rooms seem to have a clue about psychology or man management. They just stand bellowing at the collective (ie no one in particular) while the players stare glumly at their boots. And what exactly does "think positive" mean to someone returning to the pitch. Surely he wants something more specific like "knobble their number seven".

If you've ever idly wondered about whatever happened to Kelly McGillis, the slightly bovine beauty whose piercing blue-eyed glances at Tom Cruise in *Top Gun* and at Harrison Ford Keith, and whom I once saw fronting a video diary about Italia and pitfalls of football management. Maybe it's just the to Bitter Blood (Sat, Sun BBC1). This two-part mini series I wonder if the same might work for Liverpool FC.

states immediately that it's based on real events (ie no dramatist would dare) and finds a semi-crazy McGillis shacking up with a mad survivalist (Harry Hamiin in a beard) and plotting against her former husband (Keith Carradine).

Everyman (Sun BBC1) checks out the shortlist of those likely to be the next Pope (apparently "the papacy of John Paul II is entering its final phase"), going behind the scenes to reveal some of the secrets of the Conclave, the Papal election process. To the Ends of the Earth (Sun C4) goes in the opposite direction, deep into the Hairlan countryside to meet a certain Wilfrid Dorissant, a man who has made legal history by being recognised by the authorities as a zombie (his uncle is accused of doing it to him). The first encounter finds Dorissant held in stocks, "because he doesn't have a spirit".

BBC 1

7.00 Children's BBC: Harry and the Hendersons. 7.25 News, Weather. 7.30 Felix the Cat. 7.45 Phantom 2040, 8.10 The Real Adventures of Jonny Quest, 8.35 The Flintstones. 9.00 Live and Kicking, Zoë Ball and Jamie Theakston present a special end-of-series show. Guests Gary Barlow and Michelle Gayle provide

of making a low-budget British movie - squeezing an eight-

the music (S) (18780398). 12.12 Weather (4154987). 12.15 Grandstand. Introduced by Steve Rider (4153258). 12.20 Football Focus (6080987). 1.00 News (22239155). 1.05, 3.40, 4.00 World Snooker. Live coverage from the Crucible Theatre, Sheffield of today's first-round matches. 1.50, 2.25, 2.55, 3.25 Racing. From Newbury, featuring races at 2.00, 2.30, 3.00 and 3.25, 2.10 Curling. Highlights from the semi-finals of the men's and women's World Championship from Berne, Switzerland (42922277). 2.40, 3.10 Motorcycling. From the British Superbike Championship from Donington Park (5486906). 3.50 Football Half-Times (9565074). 4,40 Final Score (2377529).

5.20 News, Weather (7) (8767703). 5.30 Local News, Weather (729345). 5.35 Cartoon (769155). 5.45 Dad's Army. Private Pike receives his call-up papers (R)(T) (633600). 6.15 The New Adventures of Superman

(S)(T) (320432). 7.00 Whatever You Want. Gaby Roslin fixes it for three amateur golfers to train with Nick Faldo's coach, David Ledbetter, in Florida. Plus, three dog-owners have their pets audition for a TV commercial (S)(T)

7.50 The National Lottery Live. Prefab Sprout perform their new single (S)(T) (371277).

8.10 Crime Traveller. Holly suspects that she may not be the only one with a time machine and Slade becomes jealous when a figure from Holly's past appears. Last in this jolly timetravel crime series (S)(T) (246987). 9.00 Bitter Blood. See Preview, above

(S)(T) (2548). 10.30 News, Sport, Weather (T) (92838). 11.00 Match of the Day. The possibly titledeciding match between Liverpool and Manchester United at Antield is the main event. Barry Davies was there (S)(7) (39845 Ī).

12.05 They Think It's All Over. Boxer Steve Collins is the repeat guest (R) (S)(T) (3462961).

12.35 World Snocker (5623049). 1.35 Top of the Pops. Kavana, Texas, Shola Ama and DJ Quicksilver are ive in the studio (S)(77 (3080730) 1.45 FIEW Pigeons (John Dexter 1970

US). Alienated Princeton graduate Jordan Christopher takes to cabdriving in swinging New York City in this smug counter-culture tale otherwise known as "The Sidelong Glances of a Pigeon Kicker". Pretentious? Moi? (1223914). 2.35 Weather (8355830). To 2.40am.

6.20 Open University: Of Fish and People –
Modelling a Muddle (2450548). 16thCeritury Venice and Antwerp
(2113109). 6.45 Electrons and Atoms
(4421646). 7.10 Shooting Video
History (1808548). 8.00 Open
Saturday (368277).

10.30 World Championship Snooker. David
Vine introduces the start of the 1997

Vine introduces the start of the 1997
Embassy World Championship from the
Crucible Theatre, Sheffield. Stephen
Hendry hopes to be the first man to win

the title seven times if he goes all the way this year. His first game is against Andy Hicks (S) (8059 1432).

12.15 Film 97 with Barry Norman. Woody Aller's Everyone Says / Love You, and Val Kilmer as The Saint (R) (569906).

12.45 Stagecoach (John Ford 1939
US). Ford's hugely influential western, set, like so many to come, in Arizona's Monument Valley. Wounded, vengeance-seeking outlaw John Wayne is picked up by a stagecoach full of characterful archetypes (boozy doc, cynical gambler, crooked banker, and so forth – the dubious emissaries of the coming civilisation). Enter the Apaches, for a derail small common of the common civilisation of the common civilisation of the common civilisation. for a classic finale (T) (47447180).

2.20 STUM Death of a Gunfighter (Allen Smithee 1969 US). The director's credit is pseudonymous – it was in fact Don Siegel who finished off this rather fine western starring Richard Widmark as the gurlighter-turned-marshal who, after 20 years, is told by the town council that he must resign. When he refuses, they have no option but to have him gunned down (6841513).

3.50 The Saint (3590722).

4.40 World Championship Snooker. David Vine introduces further first-round coverage from Sheffield (77253708).

6.15 Travels with Persner, Writer Michael Bracewell travels to Surrey, seeking out buildings which tell the story of the creation of suburbia, including two masterpieces by Lutyens and the Beehive, the modernistic heart of the original Gatwick airport (S)(1) (177277).

7.05 Newsnight. Jeremy Paxman and more election banter (819161).
8.05 Close Up. Stephen Woolley discusses a scene from Gun Crazy (R)(S) (741285).
8.10 Call of the Sea. Recalls the 1930s heyday

of the fishing fleet when there were more than 50,000 British fishermen making a living from the sea (521180). 8.50 Till Death Us Do Part (R) (672141).

9.20 Have I Got News for You. New series of the sattrical news quiz, with special guest Swampy (R) (295277).
9.50 The Sack Race. See Preview, above (S)(T) (554890).
10.40 Shoot Out in Swansea – the Making of This Town See Proview above (T)

Twin Town. See Preview, above (T) (8616529).

11.45 Sex Boyz N the Hood (John Singleton 1991 US), 23-year-old Singleton's impressive debut gives an authentic-seeming portrait of street life in the gang-infested Los Angeles of the late 1980s. The tale itself is old-fashioned: two friends, one gets involved with the gangs - but can the other stay on the straight and narrow and get a college education? With Cuba Gooding Jr, Ice Cube and Larry Fishburne (946093). 1.35 Later with Jools Holland. With

Everything but the Girl and Burning Spear (R)(S) (3121469). To 2.45am.

ITV/LWT

6.00 GMTV: 6.00 News. 6.10 Professor Butble. 6.30 Bananas in Pyjamas. 6.50 Our House. 7.15 The Wuzzles. 7.45 Disney's Wake Up in the Wild Room. 8.55 Power Rangers Zeo. 9.25 Scratchy and Co (\$) (91297890). 11.30 The Chart Show (\$) (13987), 12.30 Love Bites (24971).

1.00 News, Weather (7) (22320451). 1.05 London Weekend Today (22329722). 1.10 Uefa Champions' League Special

(70519161).

1.40 Sharimasters (R) (22036613).

2.10 The Likely Lads (Michael Tuchner 1976 UK). Decent big-screen spin-off finds Bob, Theirma, Terry and Terry's Elacific different on a commission big.

Finnish griffriend on a caravaning trip. (777513).

3.45 SeaQuest DSV (S)(T) (893155).

4.45 News, Sport, Weather (T) (1370971).

5.05 London Weekend Tonight (6875258).

5.20 Clueless (S)(T) (2487285).

5.45 News Represent Destruct of the pd. 5.45 New Baywatch. Return of the red swimsuit set. We rediscover the boys and girls in training to be fire-fighters (S)(7) (198155).

Channel 4

6.00 Sesame Street (R) (4350277).
7.05 The Adventures of Sonic the Hedgehog (R)(S) (6935695).
7.35 Creepy Crawlers (R)(S) (4098180).
8.00 Transworld Sport (S) (92161).

9.00 Harswork Sport (S) (92/161).
9.00 Morning Line. A look ahead to the day's racing (76548).
10.00 Gazzetta Football Italia (55426).
11.00 NBA 24/7. Basketball (S) (31890).
12.00 Rawhide (14548).
1.00 EBB. The Pure Hell Of St Trinian's

(Frank Launder 1960 UK). Having

burned down the school, Ronald Searle's disruptive boarding school girls are shipped off to the Middle East, where they mix it up with harems and secret agents. Irene Handl replaced Alastair Sim as the headmistress in this third St Trinian's outing (26777884).

2.45 Channel 4 Racing, Derek Thompson introduces coverage of four races from Ayr, including, at 4.05, the Scottish Grand National. The others races are the 2.55, 3.25 and 4.40 (S) (55100221).



Boyz Ñ the Hood 11.45pm BBC2 Cuba Gooding Jr and Ice Cube face a bleak future in 1980s gangland LA

6.35 You've Been Framed! (R) (357277). 7.05 Barrymore. Honor Blackman is one of the lanky one's guests (S)(7) (825722). 8.00 News, Weather, Lottery Result (7) (787109).

8.15 Stars in Their Eyes. A Glaswegian butcher pretending to be Jon Bon Jovi and a sales clerk doing his Paul Young are among this week's contestants. Matthew Kelly hosts (S)(7) (515529).

Matthew Kelly hosts (S)(T) (515529).

9.00 Cracker – the Movie. Actually a repackaged three-part story from 1994 called "Men Should Weep". Someone is attacking women with chilling precision – leaving no evidence (R) (68349838).

11.35 Tests The Danger of Love (Loyce Chopra 1992 US). The prime suspect in a murder investigation is the lover of the dead woman's husband. Joe Permy and Jenny Robertson star (S)(T) (476819).

1.15 Tests Murder Elite (Claude Whatham 1985 UK). Ali MacGraw plays a

1985 UK). Ali MacGraw plays a man who, after w inheritance on a string of no-good boyfriends, is forced to move in with her older sister (Billie Whitelaw) who runs a stud farm in a remote comer of the English countryside. Then the murders start happening (498117).

3.15 El News Review (4752204).

4.05 Club Nation (R)(S) (4874204).

5.00 Night Shift (2196223). To 5.05am.

6.30 Right to Reply (S)(7) (548). 7.00 A Week in Politics (S) (7364). 8.00 The Halls of Montezuma (Lewis Milestone 1950 US) Solid, well-cast Second World War action drama about a bunch of US Marines fighting their way through the Pacific islands. With

5.05 Brookside Omnibus (R)(S) (8221600).

Richard Widmark, Jack Palance, Robert Vagner and Karl Malden (20373708). 10.10 Eurotrash. Meet the official Italian transsexual movement (R) (892242). 10.45 Homicide: Life on the Street. Bayliss and Lewis investigate the murder of a prostitute by a homeless man (S)(7)

(861628). 11.40 Hill Street Blues, Has there been a cover-up in a case linking a councillor to a young prostitute? (R)(T) (683762). 12.40 [113] A Wedding (Robert Altman 1978

US). Altman brings his distinctive style to hear on this ensemble piece about nouveau riche Southern wedding. The sprawling cast includes Carol Burnett, Mia Farrow, Lillian Gish and Lauren Hutton (S)(T) (32162049). 3.00 The Best of Aykroyd, Belushi and Chase (R) (34515).

4.00 Rock of the North(S) (4873575). 4.55 Let the Blood Run Free. To 5.25am.

Channel 5

6.00 Dappledown Farm (5347161).6.30 Attractions (R)(S) (6680906). 7.00 5 News Early (S) (2750451). 7.30 Havakazoo: Wimzie's House (2746258).

(2746258).
8.00 Alvin and the Chipmunics (2364987).
8.30 Land of the Lost (2363258).
9.00 Beverly Hills, 90210 (1090635).
9.55 Beverly Hills, 90210 (1090635).
10.50 Mag Upfront, Young actors re-enact childhood traumas (R) (85795068).

11.00 Turnstyle. Gail McKenna and the team preview and report on the weekend's top sporting clashes (S) (37813364).

12.50 5 News (S) (11800161).

1.00 The Mag. Josie D'Arby introduces the afternoon entertainment slot for young

people. Including "Blagger's Guide"
with Brendan Coogan, "The Rad" with
Christian Stevenson and "VATV". Plus,
"USA High", the teenage drama series
set in an American school in Paris (S) (95500513).

3.15 Sunset Beach Omnibus (13310548). 6.00 5 News and Sport (9506722). 6.05 Hercules: the Legendary Journeys. The demi-god defends a group of travellers from a pterodactyl (S) (3125161).

6.55 Night Fever, Suggs hosts the karaoke entertainment show (S) (5588703). 7.50 5 News and Sport (S) (1396838). 10 JAG. Adventure series about a US navy lawyer. Rabb and Austin investigate the death of a naval officer murdered on the grounds of Arlington National Cemetery, the third man to be killed there in the

last year (3498432). 9.00 Halifax FP. New drama import series selling itself as the Australian Cracker, and starring former soap star Rebecca Gibney as tough young forensic psychiatrist Jane Halifax. The lass faces a professional and personal dilemma when a colleague breaches his ethical code by having an affair with a patient. But the indiscretion turns into a far more serious matter when the lover is run over and killed (1) (32822161).

10.55 Twin Peaks, One of Channel 5's more inspired purchases - it might just be time to have another look at David Lynch's ground-breaking 1990 TV drama. The question for cherry pie-munching FBI Agent Dale Cooper (Kyle MacLachlan) and the townsfolk of the eponymous Pacific north-west lumber community is, of course, who killed Laura Palmer? Sherilyn Fenn, Joan Chen, Ray Wise, Sheryi Lee and Lara Flynn Beyle co-star (7) (46393635). 12.45 East Electra Glide in Blue (James

William Guerico 1973 US). Pint-sized patrolman Robert Blake wants to trade in his Electra Glide bike for plainclothes detective status. Strange, slow-burning cult drama from record producer Guerico (27618469).

3.00 GIBM Cry for Me, Billy (William A Graham 1972 US). Violent frontier adventure about a young gunfighter who does his best to protect a group of Indians after many of them are killed while in the custody of the US Cavalry. Citif Potts stars (2011407). 4.40 Prisoner: Cell Block H (6360865). 5.30 Whittle (R)(S)(5248846). To 6.00am.

MIGLIA
As London excepts 12.30pm Movies, Games and Videos (24971). 1.05 Anglia News and Weather (22329722). 1.40 Warner Cartoon (39684703). 1.50 Films: The Golden Voyage of Sinbad (56925548). 3.50 seaQuest DSV (6487093). 5.05 Anglia News, Sport and Weather (6875258). 1.15 Film: Presumed Guilty (828652). 2.55 Collins and Maconie's Movie Club (3560643). 3.25 Customs Classified (4758488). 4.15 Jones and Jury (19406407). 4,40 - 5.30am Shift (9896662).

CENTRAL As Landon except: 12.30pm Premiere (24971). 1.05 Central News (22329722). 1.40 Movies, Games and Videos (22036613). 2.10 Film: Disney's Napoleon and Samaritha (608364). 3.50 seafuest DSV (6487093). 5.05 Central News (8684426). 5.10 Central Match - Goals Extra (5948364). 4.05 Jobinder (9882858). 5.20 - 5.30am Asian Eye (2172643).

HTY WILES
As London except: 12.30pm Movies, Garnes and Videos (24971). 1.05 HTV Wales News (22329722). 1.40 Film: Murder by Death (53296155). 3.20 Skintmasters (8081337). 3.55 Airwolf (3593819). 5.05 HTV Wales News and Sports Results (6875258). 1.15 Film: Presumed Guitty (828662). 2.55 Collins and Maconie's Movie Cub (3560643), 3.25 Customs Classified (4758488). 4.15 Jones and Jury (19406-407). 4.40 - 5.30em Shift (9896662).

HTV West A HTV Wales except: 1.05pm HTV West News and Weather (22329722). 1.10 Sportsweek (6755987). 1.45 UEFA Champions League Highlights (551987). 2.15 World of Wonder (79660628). 2.40 Stuntmasters (9804261, 3.20 Airmoit (6672797). 4.10 The List (8824635). 5.05 - 5.20pm HTV West News, Sports Results and Weather (6875258).

MERIDAN
As London except: 12.30pm Moves, Games and Videos (24971). 1.05 Meridian News and Weather (22329722). 1.40 A406 (22036613). 2.10 Films: The Biscuit Eater (608364). 3.50 seaQuest DSV (6487093). 5.05 Meridian News and Weather (6875258). 1.15 Films: Presumed Guilty (828662). 2.55 Calistons Classified (4758488), 4.15 Jones and Jury (19406407). 4.40 - 5.30am Shift (9896662).

Radio

Radio 1

Radio 2

A7 6 99 (Mat गा) 6.00am Dave Pearce 9.30 Mark Goodier 12.30 Claire Sturgess 3.30 Trevor Nelson 6.30 Danny Radio 1 Reggae Dancehall Nite 2.00 Essential Mix: Paul Van Dyk 4.00-6.00am Annie Nightingale

成多分分配性 利納 6.00am Mo Dutta 8.05 Brian Matthew 10.00 Steve Wright 1.00 Foreverett 1.30 The News Hud-dintes 2.00 Judi Spiers 4.00 Alan Freeman 5.30 Celino Dion in Con-cert 6.30 Too Much Heaven: The Story of the Bee Gees 7.30 Ruthe Horsboff with A Starte Dec Ruthe Henshalf with A Star Is Born (R)
9.30 Povid Jacobs 10.00 The
English Channel 11.00 Bob Harris
1.00 Charles Nove 4.00-7.00am

C1050 det 76: 6.55am Weather; News Headlines. 7.00 Record Review. 9.00 Building a Library. 10.15 Record Release. 12.00 Private Passions. This week Michael Berkeley talks to former Cabinet Secretary Lord Armgrong of Immister.
1.00 News; Vintage Years, In the

third of lour programmes, Dame Janet Baker talks to Brian Kay about the delights and pressure madved in pleasing audiences worldwide as well as the invisi ble listeners behind the microphone (R) 3.00 5BC Festival Brass. The first

of six programmes in which Paul Hindmarsh presents the best of brass band music from two pioneering periods – the early years of original brass band repertoire up to 1930, and the Seventies.

4.00 London International String Quartet Competition. 5.00 Jazz Record Requests. 5.45 Music Matters, 5.30 Live from the Met: Eugene

Onegin. The Russian star sopra-no Galina Gorchakova leads a Tchaikovsky's popular opera of thwarted love. Vladimir Chemov, bantone (Onegin), Franço Fanna, tener (Lensky). Mananna Tarasova, mezzo (Oiga), Vladmimir Ognevenko, bass (Gremin), Chorus and Orchestra of the Metropolitan Opera/Anto-nio Pappano. Act 1: Act 2

Scene 1. 7.50 The Met Opera Quiz.

Choice



Song is about You (5.40pm R4) is a new series about a song written about them: today, Lucy Vodden, nurseryschool classmate of Julian Lennon (left), whose portrait of her inspired John to . write "Lucy in the Sky with Diamonds",

8.20 Eugene Onegin, Act 2 Scene 2; Act 3.
10.00 Between the Ears, Six ex-perimental radiophonic pro-grammes. The Great Wall on Clogwyn Du'r Arddu in Snowdo-nia is one of the world's most

perious rock faces. Two climbers explore the risks and the rewards of tackling an as-cent so difficult as to be 'almost beyond the realms of human comprehension'. 10.45 Grand Union Orchestra. Rhythm of the Tides by Tony Haynes is the result of a two-

Grand Union and a group of musicians from Lisbon, Debbie Dicionson Introduces a record of the work given in concert in the Queen Elizabeth Hall, Lon-don, last October, when they performed the work with singers Maria Joao Silveira, Paulo de Carvaino, Brenda Rattray and Richard Scott.

1.00-7.00am Through the Night. Radio 4 似4946年時1980年前 5.00am News Briefing. 6.10 Farming Today. 6.50 Prayer for the Day. 6.55 Weather.

8.58 Weather 9.05 Sport on 4. 9.30 Breakaway.
10.00 News; Loose Ends.
11.00 News; Election Agenda. Today, families throughout Britain say what they think about single

currencies, social chapters and Brussels, and presenter Vivian White outs their concerns to the policy advisers who have helped shape the election manifestos. 11.30 From Our Own Correspon-12.00 Money Box 12.25 The News Quiz.

You Probably Think This people who have good reasons for thinking that they have had

1.10 Any Questions? Jonathan Dimbleby chairs a topical dis-cussion in Hackney, London, with Foreign Secretary Malcolm Rifidind; Liz Lynne, Liberal Democrat spokesperson on social security and disability; and Ruth Deach, principal of St Anne's

Deach, principal of St Anne's
College, Oxford.

1.55 Shipping Forecast.

2.00 News; Any Answers?

2.30 Saturday Playhouse: Gigl. By
Colette, in this new dramatisation by Ayshe Raif, 15-year-old
Gigl is being groomed in the arts
of becoming a mistress by her
doling grandmother and her
wealthy aunt. With Julia
McKenzie.

3.45 How to Survive in Further Ed.

3.45 How to Survive in Further Education. (R) 4.00 News; Witnesses. 4.30 Science Now. 5.00 PM.

5.40 You Probably Think This Song Is about You. See Choice, above. 5.50 Shipping Forecast. 6.00 Six O'Clock News 6.25 Week Ending. 6.50 Utopla and Other Destina

7.20 Kaleidoscope Feature, Walter Mosley talks to John Harvey about his fictional detective Easy Rawlins and Gone Fishin', the previously unpublished first nov-el in the series of books which made him one of America's ost important black writers.

7.50 On These Days.
8.50 Saturday Night Theatre: The Casebook of Sherlock Holmes. By Sir Arthur Conan Doyle.
With Clive Memison as Holmes and Michael Williams as Dr Watson, (R)

9.35 Classics with Kay.

9.50 Ten to Ten. This week, American author and speaker Jim Wallis talks about the need to 10.00 News.
10.15 The Donahue Sisters. Geral-dine Aron's radio version of her-accleimed off-Broadway stage play. With Frances Tometry. (R)
11.15 Memoirs of a Maladjusted

Teacher. (R)
11.30 Stanza on Stage. Poet Edwin Morgan and jazz musician Tommy Smith collaborate in Beasts of Scotland, recorded a

Beasts of Scotland, recorded at last year's Glasgow International Jazz Festival.

12.00 News.

12.30 Late Story: Flight, By Doris Lessing, Read by Jack Klaff.

12.48 Shapping Forecast.

1.00 As World Service:

5.50 Inshore Forecast.

5.51 Bells on Simday 5.51 Bells on Sunday. 5.55-6.00am Shipping Forecast.

Radio 4 LW (\$2.494.5Milk RK; 198kRz LW) No Variations

Radio 5 (E3) 909Mz NW)
6.00am Dirty Tackle 6.30 The
Breakfast Programme 9.00 Weekend 10.00 Richard Littlejohn
11.00 Sport on Five 6.06 Six-0-Six
8.05 The Treatment B. 00 Six-0-Six 3.1.00 Sport on thre 6.06 Sk:0-Sk 8.05 The Treatment 9.00 Brief Lives 9.30 Asian Perspective 10.00 Richard Dallyn's Election Night 11.00 News Extra 12.00 Af-ter Hours 2.00 Up All Night 5.00-6.00am Morring Renorts

Classic FM (100-101 9Mile 700 6.00am Sarah Lucas 9.00 Countdown 12.00 Masters of Their Art 1.00 Alan Mann 3.00 Jane Markham 6.00 Gerdening Forum 7.00 Opera Guide 8.00 Evening Concert 10.00 The Classic Quiz 12.00 Sally Peterson 2.00 Eversing Concert 4.00-6.00am

6.00am Morning Reports

Virgin Radio (1215, 1197-1268Mz MW 105.8MHz PM) 6.00am Lynn Parsons 10.00 Russ 'n' Jono's Greatest Hits 12.00 Jeremy Clark 3.00 The Album Chart with Mark Forrest 6,00 Robin Banks 10.00 Janey Lee Grace 2.00-6.00am Howard Pearce

World Service (1986年1)第 . 1.00am Newstiesk 1.30 Letter 1.00am Newsdesk 1.30 tester from America 1.45 Britain Today 2.00 Newsdesk 2.30 On Your Be-half 3.00 Newsday 3.30 Music Re-view 4.00 World News 4.05 World Business Review 4.15 Sports Roundup 4.30 From Our Own Cor-

respondent 5.00 Newsdesk 5.30-6.00am Global Business

7.00am Orson and Olivia (98109). 7.30 Delty and His Friends (77616). 8.00 Press Your Luck (27548). 8.30

8.00 Press Your Lick (27548). 8.30 Love Connection (26819). 9.00 Quantum Leep (14722). 10.00 Kung Fu - The Legend Continues (93600). 11.00 Legends of the Hidden City (77513). 11.30 Sea Rescue (78242). 12.00 Wrestling (63884). 1.00 Wrestling (45432). 2.00 Star Trek (42432). 3.00 Star Trek: The Next Generation (52258). 4.00 Star Trek: Deep Space Nine (54093). 5.00 Star Trek: Voyager (8529). 6.00 Kung Fu - The Legend Continues (69068). 7.00 Heycuries: The Legendary Journeys (6187). 8.80 Coppers (8906). 8.30 Cops I (4513). 9.00 Cops II (60277). 9.30 The Serial Kitlers (64513). 10.00 Law and ial Kiners (64513), 10.00 Law and Order (11628), 11.00 LA Law (74529), 12.00 The Movie Show (74529). 12.30 The works show (50846). 12.30 LAPD (11469). 1.00 Dream On (93223). 1.30 Smouldering Lest (59812). 2.00-6.00am Hit Mix (7735240).

3M7 2.00pm Superboy (4441161), 7.30 Superboy (3101258), 8.00 Melrose Place (1573074), 9.00 Pacific Drive (1593838), 10.00 Tales from the Crypt (84) 1987). 10,30 Tales from the Crypt (8420635). 11.00 Stand and Defiver (8084567). 11.30 Stand and Defiver (7949703). 12.00-6.00am Hit Mix (8066372).

6.00am Joe at the Kingdom of the Bees (9491548). 7.05 Joe at the Bess (949):542), 7.05 Joe at the Kingdom of the Arts (2982242), 8.15 Lancer Spy* (14739987), 10.00 Batman Forever (59635), 12.00 They Watch (54277), 2.00 The Long Voyage Home* (39890), 4.00 With Honors (4703), 6.00 Rolling Thunder (11646), 8.00 Bat-man Forever (61141), 10.00 Under Siege 2: Dark Tentlory (631364). 11.45 Wes Craver's New Nightmare (577987). 1.40 Under Siege 2: Dark Territory (254198). 3.25 Confessions of a Sorority Girl (5469001). 4.45-6.25am With Honors (17347117).

6.00am Warlords of Atlantis (45838). 8.00 The Return of Tommy Tricker (60884). 10.00 Medicine River (51093), 12.00 The Land that Time Forget (56635), 2.00 Little Women (98548). 4.00 The Magic Kid 2 (71529). 5.30 Problem Child 3 (85971), 7.00 Little Women (90513), 9.00 Wolf (11600), 11.00 Indecent Behaviour II (794567). 12.40 An Unmarried Woman (88017469). 2.50 Police Rescue (7971136). 4.20-6.00am Medicine

6.00pm Foreign Correspondent*
(8207242), 8.00 Hell is for Heroes (8382987), 10.00 Spellbinder (4373529), 11.45 Defensales (5339635), 1.30 Charley Varrick (1073440), 3.20-5.00am Badman's hory* (6656575).

SKY SPORIS I sat should 1.
7,00am World Sports (30155). 7,30
Aerobics (15890). 8,00 Rugby (24074). 8,30 Racing (23345). 9,00
Super Lesgie (22286). 11,00 Football: Liverpool v Manchester United ball: Liverpool v Manchester United -Live (337432). 1.30 Sports Saturday (53074). 2.00 Rugby Union (25863165, 4.15 Sports Saturday Results (3252703). 5.30 Football (12093). 7.00 Spanish Football (1203). 7,00 Spanish rooman (809074). 9,30 Rugby Union (81093). 11,30 Rugby Union (81093). 11,30-4,00am Spanish Football (287681).

SMY SPORTS 2
7.00am Soccer AM (4791074).
11.00 Golf: Catalan Open (1479105). 1.00 Golf: Cannes Open (9602155). 4.00 Survival of the Fittest (3151635). 4.30 Australian Rules Football (7970190). 6.30 Golf: Cannes Open (3710221). 8.00 Golf: Cannes Open (3710221). 9.00 Golf: Cannes Open (3710221). 9.00 Golf: Cannes Cannes Open (3710221), 8.00 Golf: MCI Classic (2611616). 11.00 Golf: Cannes Open (9400451). 12.30-

1.00am Senior PGA Tour (7019038). Sky SPORTS 3 12.00noon Survival of the Fittest (93320277). 12.30 Motorsport (58172600), 3.00 Gricket: West Indies v India (82563105). 10.00 Survival of the Fittast (93321906). 10.30 Snowboard (93234426). 11.00 Rebal Sports (22211513). (25044600)

5.00am Pin Money 6.30 Fashion 7.00 Sport 7.30 Game of Two Scarves 8.00 Sham Rock Quiz 8.30 Scarves 8.00 Sham Rock Quiz 8.30 Looking for Love 8.45 Pet Squad 9.00 Revelations 9.30 Fashion 10.00 Agony 10.30 Looking for Love 10.45 Pet Squad 11.00 Trial TV 11.30 Fate and Fortune 12.00 Why Fites? 12.30 Agony 1.00 Agony 1.15 Agony 1.30 Trial TV 2.00 Fashion 2.30 Agony 3.00 Fate and Fortune 3.30 Pin Money 4.00 Looking for Love 4.30 Money 4.00 Looking for Love 4.30 Sham Rock Quiz 5.00 Agony 5.30 Why Files? 6.00 Fashion 6.30 Sports 7.00 Pin Money 7.30 Game of Two Scarves 8.00 Bushido 9.00 Hardy Hunks; Sham Rock Quiz 9.30 Eya's Severifies Pro. Shay 10.00 Toolean Seventies Pop Show 10.00 Topless Derts in Space, Sport 10.30 Stand-Up 11.00 Topless Darts in Space; Fate and Fortune 11.30 Sex 11.55 Erotica Exotica 12.30 Kiss TV 1.30-6.00am Night-time programms

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The Advanced

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WESTCOliMTRY
As London except: 12.30pm Movies, Garnes and Videos (24971). 1.05 Westcountry News (22329722). 1.40 Planet Rock Profiles (22036613). 2.10 Stuntmasters (2420165). 2.50 Airwolf (8864451). 3.50 seaQuest DSV (6487093). 5.05 Westcountry News (6875258). 1.15 Film: Presumed Guilty (828662). 2.55 Collins and Maconie's Movie Club (3560643). 3.25 Customs Classified (4758488). 4.15 Jones and Jury (19406407). 4.40 - 5.30am Shift (9896662).

YORGSHRE
As London except: 12.30pm Movies, Games and Videos (24971), 1.05 Calendar News (22329722), 1.40 Cartoon (39684703), 1.50 Film: Casey's Shadow (56925548), 3.50 seaGuest DSV (6487093), 5.05 Calendar News and Weather (8684426), 5.10 Scoreline (5948364), 1.15 in Bed with Medinner (4528556), 1.50 Film: The Sellout' (6472371), 3.15 Filmity Business (673351, 3.45 Collins and Maconie's Movie Club (17876), 4.15 Murder, She Wrote (4849594), 5.05 - 5.30em Sound Bites (7276865).

CHANNEL 3 NORTH EAST

As Yorkshire except: 1.05pm North East News (22329722). 5.05 North East News and Weather (8684426). 5.10 - 5.20pm Full Time (5948364).

10.00 Hangin' with Mr Cooper (29567). 10.30 The Monkets (84819). 12.00 Low Season (7390890). 12.20 Film: Dentist on the Job* (716722). 2.00 The Monkees Special (3531242). 6.30 Love Life (548), 7.00 News (931068). 7.15 Noson I'w Choño (6029884). 8.20 Hel Straeon (887548). 8.50 Pengelf (852242). 9.25 Straten (667346). 4:30 Feb. (289616). 9.55 Etholiad 97 (895971). 10.10 The Surgery (5288074). 11.15 Countryside Undercover (741490). 11.45 Homicide: Life on the Street (357529). 5.25 - 5.40am North to Wales (7608391).

Satellite/cable Australian savoir faire.

Californian je ne sais quoi. The perfect French Chardonnay

To a Frenchman, France is the school and university of wine, but to James Herrick it was only the nursery. He learned the new technology of cold fermentation in Australia and new methods of viticulture in California. So when, 20 years on, he returned to plant his own vineyards in Languedoc, he could combine the best of both worlds - old and new - to produce exceptional Chardonnay. Fresh and spicy, full of tropical fruit flavours, but with the refinement and long finish of a French classic. Parfait. سننج ames Herrick CHARDONNAY THE DE PAYS D'OF

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